Washington DC. April 22d 1854

TORREY CORRESPONDENCE
HERBARIUM
COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY

My Dear Dr.

I do not find in the roll of paper left for me at your house the list of plants you made out for reference in supplying names. if it should fall in your way I wish you would bring it with you when you come to the Meeting of Association.

I am busy now copying. and availing myself of your kind criticisms on my manuscript

There is no special news hereabouts. The Gadsden treaty will either fail altogether, or be materially modified. The Commission is being reduced in number in prospect of a closing up of business. May Emory is well, but fidgety as ever. Should Bartletts book come out before you leave N Y. we should be glad to have you bring a copy along. Bartlett is here in trouble about his accounts, and the May & he are exchanging paper shots. every little while

I have just come from taking tea with Mr & Mrs Schott. I hope that Mrs Torrey will be able to accompany you here. May we look for you on next Wednesday evening?

TORREY CORRESPONDENCE
HERBARIUM
COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY

Yours Truly

C C Parry

Rec'd Aug. 8th
Ansd. " 12th

Sandy Hill N Y. Aug 4th 1853

TORREY CORRESPONDENCE
HERBARIUM
COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY.

My Dear Doctor:

I have to inform you of my return to my old home at Sandy Hill
I left Davenport. on 27th ult. and stopped
a few days on my route to the meeting
of the Scientific association at Cleaveland
I here met several old acquaintances.
but botanists were rather rare. being
neither represented by yourself or Dr Gray.
I met with Mr Lapham of Milwaukie
who wished to be remembered to you.
On account of the thin attendance. especially
of Geologists the meeting was less interesting
than the previous one at Albany.

Just before leaving Davenport. I rec.d
a letter from Maj Emory at Riggold Barracks
in answer to mine. he regrets my
absence but thinks as the work is so
near completion it will be best for me
to commence at once on my report

I think he expects to return himself this fall. he speaks of the work being carried on promptly & harmoniously. Have you heard yet from Mr Schott?

The yellow fever appears to be raging with unwonted Severity at N Orleans. I hope it will not show itself on the Rio Grande

I design to commence at once the thorough overhauling of my notes; and the shaping out of the Geological portion of my report. I learn from Prof Baird that Mr Conrad has nearly finished the Examination of my fossils.

I was glad to hear that you were progressing with the botany. Have you yet seen Dr Gray. I should like much to visit them while the garden is in flower shows. no doubt I could fancy myself in Texas or N Mexico

I am uncertain what arrangements to make for the coming winter but hope after my long vacation to make it a profitable one for study.

I suppose you will soon expect the return of your family to the city from their rustication. Perhaps you intend joining them for a shak there before breaking up. Can you not make Sandy-Hill on one of your journeying there or back? We have now a very pleasant route to Boston. by way of Vermont N Hampshire &c

Please inform me of your plans in reference to the botany of the Bdy Survey and any other interesting botanical news

Most truly & respectfully
Yours
L. C. Pansy

TORREY CORRESPONDENCE
HERBARIUM
COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY.

Sandy Hill August 15th. 1849

Dear Sir,

I duly received yours of the 4th. instant and have been seeking for an opportunity to send to New York for the books you mention for my son Charles. I have not however been able to procure them, and as it will be desirable to send them by the Falcon I have taken the liberty to inclose $10. and request you to get the books you mention; as you can do so much easier than I can, as I should have to go to New York on purpose, and could not now do so without great inconvenience. If you should wish to expend more money on Charles's account I shall be happy to send it to you; for I know not what the books he requires will come to. Charles expected I should receive a part of his salary, but I have received a letter from Washington stating that the company will be paid in California, and the draft by Mr C.L. Weller will not be paid.

I take this opportunity to express my gratitude and thanks for the kindness and friendship you have so long manifested towards my son; and I trust you will never have to regret what you have done to serve him. He always expresses the deepest sence of gratitude and obligation for your kindness to him. With best wishes I remain Dear Sir

Your's most sincerely

Josiah Parry

Dr. John Torrey

TORREY CORRESPONDENCE HERBARIUM COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY

TORREY CORRESPONDENCE
HERBARIUM
COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY.

Davenport Aug 20th 1855-

My Dear Dr. Torrey,

I wish to introduce to your acquaintance my brother in law Mr James Dalzell who goes to New York on business, any attention you can show will be reciprocated, & any commissions for me will be attended to.

Is it true that we are to be favored with another number of the North American Flora? Supplement, or Continuation? I wrote you about Three since

Very Respectfully Yours
C. C. Parry.

TORREY CORRESPONDENCE
HERBARIUM
COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY.

To Prof John Torrey M.D.
U.S Assay Office 30 Wall St

Sandy Hill N.Y. Dec 1st/53

TORREY CORRESPONDENCE
HERBARIUM
COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY

My Dear Dr.

I am in receipt of your note 30th ult. with enclosure The boxes sent you contain Geol. Specimens. I requested them sent to your care, that I might make a general gathering for Prof. Hall's Examination.

I told you in my last letter a week or so ago that he had agreed to examine them and assist in making out Sections & Geol. boundaries.

Conrad has made out a list of the Cretaceous fossils & described the new ones. Shall come in for a share of the glory. having a n. sp. Mytilus Schotti.

I am making rapid progress with my report, am now trying to sketch out the Municipal Botanical Districts

As I am in want of several things. I think I shall go down to N Y. early next week and will then relieve you of the boxes. and talk more fully of other matters

I am as Ever

Respectfully & Sincerly Yours

C. C. Parry.

HERBARIUM
COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY

Ans? Sept. 20/60

Davenport. Iowa
Sept 14 1859

NOTABLE CORRESPONDENCE
H. L. BARRON
COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY.

My Dear Dr Torrey.

I frequently have occasion to call you to mind in looking over matters connected with our former friendly relations but it does not so often as formerly reach the writing point.

I need not tell you that I am appreciating only as one in my circumstances can, the comforts of a home once more, and having some leisure in these dull wintery times I am improving them in a manly way. in such literary or scientific pursuits as come in my way. I feel greatly the want of books. & congenial society, but the west

you know. is better for raising corn & potatoes than. Cotton & Rice.

I have several times been on the point of writing to you in reference to the manufacture of Coal oils. Is there any good work that treats on this subject in sufficient detail to be a practical guide to carry on such operations.? What qualities of coal are suitable! and what would be the expense of an experimental establishment to test the practicability & profitable manufacture?. Can it be done in connexion with ordinary gas works!, &c &c.

If there is such a work published that you can recommend I would like to procure it.

Do you know anything in reference to the "water gas" of Pay Sanders. which I see by

the papers - is to be tested on a large scale at Philadelphia? He proposes to make a very pure gas. very cheap. using only a small amount of rosin. Now if he has to depend on this for his Carbon. how is he to get much out of little. I fear it is only a stock jobbing humbug. But have seen no authoritative refutation of its claims. There are two letters of Prof Sanders then Editors & a daily paper. who occasionally get quite jubilant on the subject of cheap gas. having a pecuniary interest in the matter.

I think we have to pay 60 high for our gas $4.50 per M. when coal can be furnished at $2.50 per ton. I wish I could see some pale statements of prices of gas in different places compared with the price of coal at the same

You will probably judge from the above that I am not at present much interested in Botany - but the only reason is that I am shut off from intercourse with botanists & books. I hear occasionally from our Trans Mississippi botanist Engelmann. who still keeps alive on the subject. Bigelow is quite silent. and Schott is full of other things. I hope you will favor me with a line shortly. that I may know what is going on. I fancy you have long before this given up your camp life. at St Marks and are enjoying the comforts of your family again. with much kind regards to all I am

Very sincerely Yours

C. C. Parry

Washington D.C. Feb 3. 1857

TORREY CORRESPONDENCE
HERBARIUM
COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY.

My Dear Dr Torrey

Maj Emory has just shown me your letter to him in reference to the Botany of the B.B. Survey

He wishes me to say in regard to the drawings in Paris, that are not engraved or in progress, that he wishes you to order their return forthwith & as soon as rec'd have them put in the hands of the N.Y. Engraver who is to have a written contract with L.L. Mitchell for the engraving to be approved by Maj Emory also to notify the Major of their receipt & disposal.

In reference to the connection of my report they will be all embodied in the final Draft, now in my hands

I have looked over much of Schotts collections. And many interesting things which I should like to know more about — We have found some interesting peculiar notices of some of the Lower Cal^a. plants by Clavigero written about a century since. I enclose translation of his notice in regard to the Simmondsia Californica (Jojoba)

Mr Schott & myself are desirous to have a genus named after the Mex. Com^r Mr Salazar. (Salazaria) a nice gentleman. & worthy officer no doubt you can find a good one among Schotts woolly Say me of the Rutaceæ. or the angular Pomaceous shrub.

It is proposed to commence at once the printing of the

Geological Survey. Do not
~~Must~~ write at present occupying
my chief attention but
any letter I shall stay over
a day or two in N.Y. to
have a final consultation with
you in reference to the
botanical matters.

I am staying with Mr
Schott at Georgetown. We
are intending to call together
on Miss Eliza some evening
this week.

I will try & keep
you duly informed of matters
here. Mr Schott joins
to kind from
With much regard
Yours truly
C C Parry

BOWDOIN COLLEGE LIBRARY
BRUNSWICK, MAINE

Sandy Hill N.Y. Feb 6th 1854

My Dear Dr

I received yours of 3d inst with enclosure. I send herewith account for the same. which Dr Antisell can sign, and send either to the Commissioner himself or to My Envoy I have My Envoys written authority to employ Prof Antisell so there will be no doubt of its being paid. in sending it let him state address & where the money is to be sent —

I have been writing to Dr Gray to day asking if he would like to examine the plants collected from the Bad lands on the Missouri. by Prof Hall, Geol. party

I am writing out my Californian report for the last time I hope

to receive in Albany the letter

forwarded by you

I have nothing from Washington

I am glad that Thurber has received

his plants, and that you are to

get rid of them.

I am well & comfortable as

the weather will allow.

Emma sends acknowledgements

to the ladies of G.b. St Marks Place N.Y.

Respectfully & truly Yours,

C C Parry

HERBARIUM
COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY

Ansd. March 27/61

Davenport Feby 9th/61.

CORRESPONDENCE
HERBARIUM
COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY.

My Dear Dr Torrey.

I have been on the point of writing you several times of late but first one thing & then another has prevented up to the present time, I have about concluded to undertake that proposed trip to "Pikes Peak" in the Spring, have received very encouraging letters from Dr Gray & Engelmann and feel quite satisfied that I can find ready sale for as many sets of plants as I can profitably collect, I have been picking up information from returned miners and others, which satisfies me that by the exercise of a little ~~assumption~~ I can work my way among the snowy ranges & high

valleys of that region by joining
prospecting parties. or moving from
one mining location to another & so
work up the botany pretty effectually
through the Summer months.
Engelmann thinks best to start
as early in May as practicable
take stage direct for Denver city
s. as to loose no time on the
plains and penetrate at once into
the Mts I expect to go by way
of St Louis. and stay over a day or
two with Engelmann. to complete
outfit & get posted in routes &c
I think I shall not attempt to
do much in the mineralogical line
except as it comes in my way.
but confine my attention to Botany
One part of my proposed plan is
to make an Engagement as
Correspondent for some public journal
to help pay Expenses. I have applied
through a friend to the St L Times. and
used your name as reference but

have received no answer as yet Engelmann thinks I could get a more profitable engagement with some St Louis paper, and will make some enquiries on the subject. If you can help me in this matter I should feel really obliged. as this is the only thing that now stands in the way of my final conclusion to go.

I also think of paying special attention to collecting seeds for propogation. and would like to engage a market for some among your extensive Nursery men.

Mrs P. & child will go East to her parents in Conn., and it will depend somewhat upon the amount of cash I can realize whether I follow her in the fall. Of course I do not expect to make money by the undertaking. but if I can save something over & above Expenses it will not prove amiss these hard times

please let me hear from you
any suggestions you may have
to offer, and if you do not
conclude to go along. I hope I
shall at least get a word of
encouragement from you occasionally
as in times past.

I suppose you are enacting
political changes with considerable
anxiety these times. I hope to
hear that you retain your position
at No 30 Wall St & will continue
to do so through a good many
administrations. We of the W. West
are strong union men. & don't much
like having the Miss blocked up.
by a foreign country I suppose all
B. Aires to are also Union men. more
found of annexation than disunion
Please don't forget that Phil
my kind regards to your family.

Very truly Your

E. E. Parry

Washington D.C. July 12th 1853

HERBARIUM
COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY

Dr Torrey

My Dear Sir:

May Emory wishes me to write that he is urging a decision of the matters connected with the Nat Hist. of Bdy Survey & will write you fully is soon as the arrangements are completed

I wrote you yesterday to say that I had received the ballance of my collections, and am now occupied in arranging my Zoological Specimens in the Smithsonian

I ought to speak guardedly about the probability of leaving for New York, as I wish to see things a little more settled before leaving the ground

Several gentlemen of Bdy. Com. have arrived lately but I have no news of Mr Schott. & Dr Bigelow

Please give my respects to Mr Wright. and my hope to see him soon either in Washington or New York

Respectfully Yours

C C Parry

CORRESPONDENCE
HERBARIUM
COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY.

Dr Tom

Mrs Jos B

Eagle Pass Texas Jan'y 1st 1853

COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY

Dr Torrey

Dear Sir:

I write to inform you of the news just received - viz - that the Commissioners had reached May Emory's Camp on the lower Rio Grande, and it has been concluded to stop the work & disband the party. May Emory was to start immediatly for Washington (via, Brazos Santiago,) & before you get this, will probably be in Washington,

He has sent Orders to Mr Schott & myself to "rejoin without delay to Washington & report to him in person with our notes & collections" an order which I will not be unpleasant to obey - Mr Schott is now absent on the Sta Rosa trip, and has not heard the news, I have written by a Mexican Courier, to urge his return. We shall probably be delayed in arranging matters here for perhaps 12 days, & then we shall make a resolute start for home once more, I think of taking the land route south, through Alabama, Georgia &c

I dont know how long we may be detained in Washington, but of course we shall

stay to witness the inauguration, and then I hope we shall have the pleasure of seeing you a visit at New York — Please let us hear from you at Washington, when I trust we shall meet in the middle of July next

I sent you by the last mail, a selection of plants, put up in a small book, May Enclosed with them the body of my collections, which I hope will go safely, my seeds are scattered & will need overhauling.

I have only just learned the fact of Mr Wrights being connected with the Pacific Exploration, & am right glad that botany is to be so ably represented in those interesting regions, will not he be likely to get a small Dip at California, & North Oregon?

Dr Engelmann is with Mr Scott. I suppose from the tenor of his orders, he will go home. I wish he could make you a visit, by the way as he is very anxious to get a look at the Great Phanerogamous botanists. I have found the Dr to be a very worthy fellow. and have formed a high regard for his zeal, & amiable feelings, I shall count myself an quite crony.

I suppose Thurber, is with the Commissioners at San Antonio and I shall get a chance to see him, I am a little curious to know what he means to do with his collections., May & miss are Mrs Mr Bartlett & himself, had an Engagement in reference to our

Natural history collections. & Bartlett
to May E. fulfilment of the scientific
our hands.

Please offer the compliments of the
the members of your family, and my
enjoy them pleasant society once more

Most Respectfully
66

stay to wa
we shall
visit at
you &
by the mi
I sent
of plants,
them with
I hope wh
will need
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Mr Wright
Expedition
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Egerton Ashurst
Yeovil Somerset
Aug 1853

Rev. John Torrey
M.D. &c.
Prof. Bot. &c.
New York City

Davenport Jany 14th 1862

TORREY CORRESPONDENCE
HERBARIUM
COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY

My Dear Dr

I believe I am generally entitled to a New Years letter from you. at least I have a few enquiries to make which will be a good excuse for drawing you out

It has been suggested to me & Dr Hay and others to write out an obituary notice of Dr Edwin Daines. late of Burlington Iowa. I think I told you in my last the rumors of his death, since verified. he died on 27th Oct last the result of injuries from being thrown from a wagon & run over. the day before his 64 years. —

What I want to get from you particularly is an account of what you know about him previous & subsequently to his connexion with Long's Exp.

What were his attainments as a Botanist? Did he receive any special instruction from you? I think his botanical history terminates with that Expedition:

Do you know anything more about him

personally — & his peculiarities, and appearance as a young man &c &c. I want to collect up all the information I can before writing out the notice. I have received several notices, most fully from his only surviving brother now living in Vermont

I suppose you have before this the set of plants selected for you by Dr Gray. perhaps you will have something to tell me about some of them. Is not that Primula a fine discovery? I can hardly realize that it has not been found before. It was so abundant & characteristic (as French would say) through the entire alpine district. It seems you did not have your original specimen of Claytonia. and so we must wait to hear from Bentham how the two agree. I hope to be supplied you with specimens of Primula (the two leaved species) one of which Dr Engelmann decides to be P. flexilis. the other undescribed called by him P. cuneifolia I suppose this last must be the one so frequently brought back (leaf specimens only) by Fremont & others at high altitudes. It is quite exclusively alpine, and a very slow grower. an ordinary sized cane I thought from earth one inch diameter has over

50 annual trips. I doubt not some of the antiquated specimens I saw would reward me ages. the Californian giants

Do you get the Proceedings of Cal Acad. Nat Sciences. The last issue including 2 years contains numerous descriptions of species of plants by Kellogg. I judge he is rather Rafinesquian in his views Sowing his wild oats. I recognize an old acquaintance - He digs pretty extensively into the Onions a fruitful field for species making, and establishes a new Liliaceous genus on the strength of its roots!!!

I pity wifey that Dr Andrews has got back there. I have written to Kellogg urging him to send specimens of his new species to Dr Gray & yourself for verification

I have no definite arrangement of plans for next season. At these warm times it is difficult to look far ahead I am however in hopes to visit the Mts again and explore further to the South of best of last seasons collections

I see they are going to have a branch Mint established at Denver. Suppose you move out there from Wall St. and take me out for a drive Keep

TORREY CLUB HERBARIUM COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY.

We are living out here in comparative peace and unparalleled plenty. Abundance of Eatables much complaints among farmers at low prices for all they have to sell. and high prices for what they want to buy. Wheat now worth 5/6 ct Corn 11 ct pork 2,25 pr cwt &c &c

What do you thinks about our raising sugar from the newly introduced Cane. It seems to have a sufficiency of saccharine qualities. but hard to granulate.

It seems impossible to foresee the results of this war. but no doubt an Allwise Providence will bring good out of it. I know you to be of the nil desperandum class of Republicans full of faith that this magnificent fabric of Government & these rich Natural resources will not be left to go to waste. but will come out of the fiery persecution purified and separated from all pernicious alloys —

Please excuse this rambling badly written letter. I got a lecture from Prof Short lately on my Obscure Chirography. he thinks quite a number of N. A Botanists ought to go to school again. You at least are clear on that score —

Respectfully & kindly Yours

C. C. Parry

TORREY CORRESPONDENCE

Rec'd Feby 3d
Ansd. Feby 6th

Davenport. Jany 30th 1860

IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY
HISTORICAL DEPARTMENT
COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS

My Dear Dr Torrey

I am much obliged for your kind letter of 20th inst. and will avail myself of your offer to procure a copy of Dr Antisells book. (Inclosed find $2,00 for that purpose) I will also be obliged for a No of Sas journal containing price of Sas at different places). Also if it comes in your way one a more copies of Says Catalogue corresponding with Manual of Northern states I do not like to trouble you but your kindness long tried & often experienced is my excuse.

A letter lately received from Schutt states that May Irwin has made his appearance once more in Washington still sporting the red Cavalry moustache & wanting complaints as usual.

We have had Horace Greeley here to enlighten us on Western America.

Otherwise times are dull and general depression in financial matters, Sheriffs sales & foreclosure of Mortgages being the order of the day. We look for some improvement by Emigration in the Spring. As the present low price of lands offers unusual inducements to actual Settlers.

I should like very much
to pop in upon Jim at
St Marks as of old, and
enjoy in my quiet way the
sight of friendly faces, &
agreeable conversation; but
must dispense with such
a pleasure for the present
With kind regards to Jim Junior

I remain Sincerely Yours
C. C. Perry,

Rec'd Aug. 13 & 16 (61)
and Aug. 16

Cabin in The Rocky Mts
July 22d 1861

TORREY CORRESPONDENCE
HERBARIUM
COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY.

My Dear Dr

Many Times since my arrival in the Mts have I had occasion to think of you, but almost constant occupation of mind & body, and the irregularity of mail conveniences has prevented me from writing. Now when I sit down to it, I hardly know where to begin so many things of interest crowd upon my thoughts. I am as you may have heard from Short Sources located at the head waters of South Clear Cr. at the foot of the Snowy range, a Stream of melted Snow water gushes and foams within a few steps of my cabin door, while majestic masses of Mountains Patched with Snow are in sight, and a few hours walk brings me into an alpine region, diversified with the rich flora of this interesting section. I think I have never worked so hard or with such profit as I have for the last 6 weeks in exploring and collecting the vegetation of this splendid Mt District, and its interesting features do not by any means diminish every day, or every new direction constantly adds to my accumulating stock; and should my health & strength hold out I am satisfied I shall gather a collection of plants that will surprise you. Not perhaps so much from their novelty (which is) I feel quite confident

there will be a few shows of these) both from their completeness & extent. You expressed in your letter a regret that I could not visit Pikes Peak, but a few hours walk from my cabin door [James' or Long's ?] brings me into an alpine region equally rich. I find all the plants noticed in N. A. Flora as found by Dr James, and being able to visit this region as I expect to about twice a week through the season I shall be able to embrace a complete catalogue and include specimens in all states of growth and put up with great care. I do all my botanizing on foot, "Eat myself" as the Irishman says and am perfectly independent to come & go when and where I please. I have been once over into Middle Park, which is but 3/4 day journey from here. I have explored several Mt. passes, and have the country surrounding within a dozen miles or more all by heart. I have selected three conspicuous peaks, to which I have given the name of "Torrey & Gray", I expect to visit them this week Determine their location & approximate height, and so entitle me to the naming of them. It is my intention to make up a topographical sketch of this district, or portion of the dividing ridge, to be published on my return, in connexion with my Scientific observations. I came near joining a Surveying party for the location of a Stage road to Salt Lake, but as they did not

alum disposed to grant me necessary facilities and as I knew that I was occupying a most desirable field I declined going. I wrote to Dr Gray last week enclosing some slips of plants among them what I take to be Sym Chionophyllum as briefly described by Dr Engelmann. I enclose you also a specimen, which I hope may prove to be the Ourisia elata., I noticed. The first snow weeks since in bud. but found a very abundant locality in full flower on 16th inst. What a fine group of Pedicularias we have here such as would fairly make Mr Bentham jump. Then are three alpine species of very delicate foliage and angular flowers. Castilleja is also very abundantly represented in alpine forms. I hope to get material for fully illustrating this difficult genus. Then are two species of Alpine Ives of the 5 leaved section. one of them no doubt P flexilis of Dr James. the other I am in hopes may prove new. not having any description of P flexilis, I cannot yet determine which is it, both are rather dwarfish in habit, short rigid leaves. the cones in one with thickened scales in the other quite thin, and armed with a persistent prickle. There are no deciduous leaved trees, except the poplar 2 or 3 species, willows are abundant & characteristic. I have found the Viburnum pauciflorum, near here

But I would be almost endless to go into a detail of the plants which I know would interest you and which I trust you will see in due time I enclose only a few slips such as I can lay my hands on readily. I must say one word before closing in reference to the mineral capacity of this region. Gold seems to be very widely & generally diffused. both in the drift, and in connexion with veins. composed of quartz, iron pyrites, galena &c but it is very fine and difficult to get. The great problem is how to save the gold. The products of the quartz mills being very irregular, owing no doubt to defective means of attaching the gold to the quicksilver. A friend of mine Dr Hobbs. of the firm of Hobbs & Turner, is anxious to get an accurate analysis of his ores. I told him to send you samples; as you would doubtless have facilities for making the necessary examinations does the gold exist mechanically connected with the pyrites or chemically combined.? & Dr Bundale is just now making quite a noise & a business, results from smelting the pyrites. I understand that he does not profess to extract the gold. but to make it which is probably true I have no time to add more having a chance to mail this for Denver direct this P.M. write to me my good long-time friend and direct Care of A. H. Owens Missouri City Colorado Ter.

Very Truly Yours E. E. Pacy

Rec'd March 11.

Davenport Iowa March 4th 1856

My Dear Dr Torrey.

I have thought of you often since the receipt of your last letter with feelings of deepest sympathy in your irreparable loss. With many kind recollections of the departed one. I would fain join my humble tribute of sorrow. With your afflicted family. I can well encounter what a shadow has fallen upon your own spirit in loosing from your side the partner of your joys & sorrows, & that you feel life's journey indeed to be a pilgrimage. Happy am I that you have all the sources of consolation such such a one bereavement allows. & hopes that reach beyond the grave. I beg you will be assured on the part of yourself & family of my warmest sympathy.

We are living on as usual in our quiet western home. My only regret is the loss of opportunities to follow up my favorite pursuits. I fear at times growing rusty; and loosing zeal by being engrossed in purely business matters. — but then I get warmed up at times. and feel a few sparks of the old fire still glowing in my veins

I would like to correspond more extensively with botanists at a distance & secure exchanges. but at present I need house room + leisure, to say nothing of family impediments not disagreeable indeed but obstacles nevertheless. in the scramble race course — I heard last evening from May Emory. saying that the publication of the Report will probably be commenced in May. + then he would send for me to go on & see that any matters are properly arranged. He makes inquiries of

some manuscript of mine left with you. I suppose it to be only detached parts left with you for criticism all which is properly included in my full report - All that I realy need is to fill up some blanks of botanical names, which you will be prepared to furnish me. I hope we shall not loose all our .N. g/h. in the long delay of publication.

I expect to go to St Louis this Spring & shall see what Engelmann has done - I am quite curious to see if Schott has fallen upon any of my old acquaintances. I hear from him quite frequently. he has quite a notion of coming out to Iowa to live. & I hope it may be brought about. I think he might find profitable employment as draftsman in some of the numerous land offices.

I am obliged for your information
in regard to coal analyses. I had
come to about the same conclusion
~~that~~ your analyses indicates in regard
to the worthlessness of our Cannel coal
but was not prepared to hear so good
an account of the superior quality of
the other article as a gas producer.
The great difficulty in regard to our
gas coals here is the large amount
of sulphur, which is abundantly disseminated
through in many cases separable as occurring
in sulphur bands & concretions. I would
like to get an additional analyses of
some coal in which I have a small
collection & when I come on in May I
will bring in samples. You forgot to
send your bill for the coal. Does not
come under the catalogue of "labors of love"
With kind regards to your family
I remain Very Sincerly Yours
C C Par.ry.

Washington. March 25th/13

My Dear Dr.

Your account has been placed in hands of Maj. E.A. representations I shall bring on and send the draft for the whole - Wrights accounts are also in the way of settlement.

Dr Agnew's chance of a situation at this Spring is good. Post Board has it in hand and of course will do all that is fair - no need of coming on here.

Shall return probably Saturday Evening particulars then

Yours Truly

C C Pauly

Rec'd May 15

Davenport May 7th 1853

Dr Torrey

Dear Sir.

You will be surprized to hear from me at this late date still a sojourner in the N W. The explanation is this: while on my way down the Mississippi for New Orleans. an indisposition which had been threatening for some days. became so much aggravated. that I deemed it most prudent to retrace my steps and seek a restoration of my health among the kind attentions of my western friends.

I am now quite sure that I should not have been prepared to undergo the exposure of our expected Campaign, in the South. without running a needless risk. and I cannot but regard my present indisposition as a kind Providential interference. I have therefore written to May Emory. stating the reasons of my not joining him, and asking that a Leave of absence be granted me. to cover the time that may Elapse till my return to Duty again.

also requesting that in case he should not deem my presence on the line essentially important that I may be ordered home to New York to work at my report.— So the matter now stands and I design waiting his answer at this place. which will probably include an interval of a month or six weeks. This length of time I can very pleasantly occupy myself in cruising about my old haunts. and enjoying the hospitality of my kind western friends

Wonderful changes have passed over the face of this beautiful land during the last 4 yrs great improvements in town & county, a foreshadowing of unsurpassed prosperity under the smiles of an indulgent heaven. I do wish you could see our Western land once. for it is a sight that may well fill a Christian heart with hope. and desire. that a country so highly favored in natural resources. may not be wanting in those higher Christian gifts. that alone give a permanent basis to true social happiness & prosperity.

In case Mr Emory accedes to my request I am thinking that my departure for the East may be so timed as to go to the meeting

of the Scientific association at Cleveland. I would like to know if you expect to be there. — I shall write to Mr Schott. to make geological observations & collections on the unfinished line. and I hope that he may have time to glean enough of botany to show the general features of the vegetation in the Mountain District:

I hope then to hear from you soon at this place and be informed of all botanical news, and the progress of your work, &c —

I shall I am sure never cease to entertain the kindest remembrance of the friendly regard which has for so long a time been extended to me, from yourself, and the members of your highly esteemed family. to which I am sorry to confess that I have so small a claim

Truly Your friend

C C Parry

TORREY CORRESPONDENCE
HERBARIUM
COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY.



Prof. John Torrey M.D.
No 76. St Marks Place
New York City

Sandy-Hill. N.Y. Nov 19th 1853

TORREY CORRESPONDENCE
HERBARIUM
COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY

Dr Torrey

My Dear Sir:

Since parting from you about a month ago, but little has occured to furnish writing matter about. I have been quite closely occupied in writing up my report, and am making good headway.

Prof Hall of Albany has kindly agreed to make an examination of my Geol[l] specimens, & assist in making out my sections, & maps, He has in his employ a competent Geol[l] Draftsman, an old acquaintance of mine, who will be glad to do the drawings under Prof Halls supervision. I have therefore concluded with the approval of May Emory, to submit all my Geol[l] matter to him.

I thought before this to have been ordered on to Washington, to meet the Commissioner, who I suppose has not yet made his appearance, wishing to lose no time I have desired May Emory to send my specimens from Washington. Directed to your Care at 67 Crosby St if you will be kind enough to receive, & store, them for a short time. It will be necessary for me to go shortly to Philadelphia to see Mr Conrad who has my fossils in charge, and from whom I have not been able to hear though I have written several times & requested Dr Le Conte to hunt him up

May Engy seems urgent to have the work progress with all possible despatch, in order to secure the necessary appropriations, for publishing. He fears that the Botany will be behind hand. I pray convince him that such will not be the case.

I received letter lately from Engelmann. He complains sadly of you, for "never writing" to him. He now has license to devote to Cacti, and will have his plates drawn & lithographed in St Louis under his own supervision.

Thurber has sent his Cacti to Engelmann, with the express stipulation that the information obtained shall not be used for Engy's report. The Dr is in quite a quandary, wishing of course to make his publication as complete as possible, and yet wishing to keep in with Thurber. I have suggested to him to make separate publication of Thurber's material in Silliman's Journal, & then quote it in Engy's report. I am sorry to learn that the loss of Thurber's collection is confirmed, I can at least sympathize with him in that of nothing else.

I think you proposed visiting Dr. Gray on Thanksgiving. I hope you will.

Do you hear or see anything of Schott. yet?

My kind regards to your family.

Respectfully & truly yours

C C Parry

COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY

Rec'd Oct. 9/60 -
Ansd - Oct. 18th

Davenport Iowa
Oct 6th 1860

TORREY CORRESPONDENCE
HERBARIUM
COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY.

My Dear Dr Torrey.

It is a long time since I have heard from you, and I think you are a letter in my debt; but knowing your many engagements, official & domestic, I can readily excuse any apparent neglect. Allow me however to interrupt your silence once more by a few queries. It is just about one year since I dropped down upon you for a short visit - and I suppose you are still dividing your time between St Marks & Wall St Your pleasant family I suppose by this time have joined you in your city quarters, please present them my cordial regards

I am living on as usual in my western home, being providentially supplied with a most exuberant har-vest. we have abundance in store for the approaching winter & our surplus going Eastward is showing a very sensible effect in improving business matters You will notice by Census returns that our population has increased during the last decade from less than 200 000. to near 500,000, and the country probably not one fifth part developed in its natural resources.

I am thinking seriously of making a trip next summer to the Rocky Mts. or "Pikes peak" mainly with a view to increased vigor of body and also to pick up what I can in the Nat Hist line. I think by that time the country will be so far settled & explored that facilities can be got for a more thorough exploration of the Mountain District than heretofore.

I should prefer of course being associated with some Government party but in default of this I think I might venture in on my "own hook" and perhaps accomplish something. Do you think I could procure subscribers. for about 10 sets of Rocky Mt Plants. say 500. species, ? If in addition to this I could get expenses paid by acting as Corresponden for some Journal I think I should feel like undertaking the voyage

Please give me your views on the subject. Should I conclude to go I should like also some instruction from you in regard to assaying of Gold Quartz. & silver as I understand. such enquiries are in considerable request out there and if I could at small outlay have with me the means of assaying I might turn it to some advantage

BOTANY CORRESPONDENCE
NEW YORK BOTANICAL GARDEN
COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY

I think of writing to Dr Gray
soon on the same subject.

I suppose botanical matters are
somewhat at a stand still but
I feel quite anxious to see
Dr Newberry's Report which no
doubt includes some nice things
The State Geological Survey of Cal^a
is in progress under J D Whitney
and I hope Botany will receive
some attention. I was sorry
to notice that the Survey of
the Western R^y of California
starts out lately so poorly
equipped. That would be a fine
field for exploration: Please
furnish me with all late
Botanical news. I hope to
hear from you soon

.

Very sincerly
Yours
C. C. Parry

Please present my respects to the Ladies & Mr Torrey & his wife and Dr Tho

Davenport Oct 26th 1858

TORREY CORRESPONDENCE
HEGGARTY
COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY

My Dear Dr Torrey

I cannot in justice to my own feelings refrain from a brief acknowledgment of your eminently kind letter & judicious Christian advice. — Nothing in the long period of our friendly intercourse has awakened warmer feelings of regard, or enlisted a more earnest desire to prove myself worthy of your friendship. — I know what you say to be true in every respect and that Christian growth is only to be attained by faithful nurture in a Christian soil. But a life of almost constant change has almost made change a part of my nature, and when I look

are providentially hindered. I almost feel as if change of scene & occupation was a necessary remedy, — Still I have ever made it a rule, whatever my wishes may be, to act only in the path marked out by Providence knowing as I do both from observation & experience that this is the only path of safety, and when as in the present case my way seems to be hedged up. I can only wait (as I have often done on a March.) for day-light to open up my pathway.

My proposed visit to the East this fall & winter. though unexpectedly delayed. will I think more than soon accomplished. — I want to brush up my botany. and perhaps qualify myself. under your instructions to take up some specialty — There is some prospect of my being connected with some literary institution in

a neighboring State. as instructor
in the Nat. Sciences. and to qualify
myself properly would require some
training in fundamental principles
very different from the erratic
duties of a botanical gleaner.
I do not know how I should
succeed in the capacity of a lecturer
but I can try it. and if the
right fire is in me. I shall
manage after a while to get it
off — I am glad to hear
that the B of B Botany is in progress
Hope my coming may be opportune
to assist you in the delivery or
congratulate you on the satisfactory
birth. — I should like very much
to meet Newberry. and get more
items in regard to the interesting
region passed over by him:
His admirable reports in the P.R.R
Surveys show him to be well

qualified to develop the interesting features of the countries he has had an opportunity to explore. What is Schott making out from his Siberian explorations? I fear standing, as he does in the gap between the War & Navy Departments he will come out poorly, either in purse or glory. — Bigelow seems quieted down. So that nothing short of a "new flame" would arouse him from the Siesta influence of a southern county practice. I have been trying to find out the whereabouts of Engelmann. I think it would be quite a treat to encounter his jolly Dutch face, after his long European visit — I am expecting to learn from East. every week. Shall undoubtedly reach St. some time in Nov.

Very truly Yours.

C. C. Parry.

Davenport Iowa Sept 15th 1897

Dr Sirs,

My Dear Sir,

I have sent you by Express a box of coal, by the direction of the Henry Co. Coal Co for analysis The office here says that the charge will be $2.— which you can charge in your bill adding under the same head the Express charge on a package, said $2.50.

They wish a full analysis for publication. Especially with a view to its manufacture as a capabilities, also as to its value for fuel.

They do not wish to incur much expense, but want the examination to be complete

The sample wrapped in paper
is from an Ohio Co. & we
want an analysis for comparison on

I have a 10th interest in the
Co. Prof Hall has seen our
location. & thinks favorably of it.

We would like an approximate
analysis as soon as you can
send it. ——

I was disappointed not to
meet you at the Albany
Meeting. Botany was well represented
in Dr Gray & Engelmann ——

Schott will inform you of
news in regard to our BY matters
I expect to come on again
this Fall. & prepare my report
for publication. & shall then
have some time with you

Our Town & State continues to
prosper we have now 12 000
population. our Mill & R Bridge
is now in running order.

My little family are all well
and we are looking for a
pleasant winter

I have my building just about
completed. & shall be occupied
and consequently quite a load off
both mind & body.

I shall hope to hear from
you soon.

Yours truly

C. G. Fay.

{Sine tibi sit ea fortuna, ne mancodi-
ca te adeat ne ? ad ? Athenas vehemdi-
mica ? Proper, ede te mea dicta}

Davenport. Apl 25th 1860

TORREY CONFERENCE
HERBARIUM
COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY

My Dear Dr Torrey,

I received some time since the copy of Antisell's work kindly forwarded by you; was glad that by a little delay you were able to send a later Edition.

Since hearing from you last, Spring has come upon us with unwonted brilliancy, and I am glad of a chance at out Door employments. I have a small garden spot facing the south and protected from intrusion whether human or hyperborean by stone walls, & high fences; here I cultivate a few choice fruits & Early vegetables, and do find employment and profit combined I have also fitted up a study & library room, with ample cases for botany, and a wide table,

I have often thought how much
I would like to grace A with that
long promised photograph of yours.
as a memento of our long cherished
friendship, and an incentive to persevering
study. Better still would be the
too great pleasure of welcoming you
as a guest to my quiet western
retreat, and returning in some
short measure the hospitality I have
so often enjoyed in your pleasant family
I am about to try my hand in
instructing a class in botany in our
H our high schools, and though somewhat
diffident in regard to my ability
I feel that some practice of this kind
may be of use to me hereafter;
I feel the need more than ever of
books & appliances, but these are
things that require time. We have
a college organized here which I
think may eventually amount to
something. It is under Episcopalian
management. but of the liberal

stamps. & they are commencing right by making a permanent endowment first. and only going as far as their means will warrant.

I want to enquire of you. whether at a moderate expense I cannot procure a good microscope. sufficient for ordinary working purposes. to show tissues. &c.? not including the higher powers. but so that they can be supplied hereafter to the same instrument. Could I get such a one for about $30,00 ? I could at least get some experience in using such an instrument and be better prepared to appreciate a better.

I ask into [illegible] in the newspapers on the subject of water gas. The Editors of one of our daily papers is a brother of Sanders the water gas man, now figuring in Philadelphia, he answered my communications in a very undictive & personal manner. but I succeed

TORREY BOTANICAL CLUB
HERBARIUM
COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY.

in accomplishing my object in showing the matter up in its true merits. and when we get authentic information of its failure. will place him in rather a ridiculous attitude before the community where he has paraded the assertion that. gas can be made & sold at a profit for 75 cts per M ft.

I suppose you keep up your interest in the Western frontiers. What can you make out of the Washoe silver mines. on the east slope of the Sierra Nevada. one of your favorite botanical districts?

Pikes Peak fever is again rife in our midst. quartz crushers being the great engine for acquiring wealth I want to see a little heaven return of the dust before I place much confidence in its reputed wealth. Yankees will find A out of A no time

Kind regards to your family

Most sincerely Yours C C Parry

TORREY CORRESPONDENCE
HERBARIUM
COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY

Sandy Hill N.Y. Aug 30th 1854

My Dear Dr. Torrey.

In packing up my "duds" in expectation of an early start for the west I came across some notes of Californian plants which you may wish to see. in completing your description I therefore enclose

I intend starting for Iowa on next Monday. going by way of New York & Phila staying a few days at each place, so that you may expect to see me accompanied with my better half. some day next week. to give you our final adieus, should be much pleased to meet with some of the female members of your family. We can then talk over botanical & other matters.

I received long letter from Wright written from Hong Kong. mostly filled up with complaints of the management of the Expedition. and want of opportunity

to botanize on new islands.

Leaving other matters to be talked over when we meet

I am my respectfully Yours

C. C. Parry.

PS I have heard nothing of the movements of the Commission. Suppose they must have left by this time. Schott it seems was woefully disappointed in not receiving advance of pay with the others. I think he has been badly treated.

JOINET CORRESPONDENCE
HERBARIUM
COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY

Davenport Iowa Aug 17th 1855

My Dear Dr Torrey.

It is so long since I have written or heard from you that I feel quite at a loss how to come at you again. Your last letter was dated last April. Spring is now over & summer is on the wane and you will soon be thinking of your duties in the Medical College

We have had an unusually pleasant season here. with seasonable rains and not excessive hot weather Crops are fine beyond all former precedent. On my farm of 202 acres in cultivation we shall have some 2000. bushels wheat. 3000, bushels potatoes. Corn & other grain in proportion. So you need not fear starvation staring you in the face next winter.

I have been quite stationary this summer not travelling off a radius

of 5 miles in any direction. This is equivalent to saying that I have dropped indigenous botany & gone into the exotics. I have taken as much interest in a coal land speculation on a back bottom Rock River as Ill.

Since sending you specimens of Iowa Coal I have been obliged to come to an adverse decision of their value both as to quality & quantity

Affairs in our town are progressing as usual. Since five large buildings are in progress or finished. We have ie KR now in process of completion running westward to the Missouri. Our Mississippi bridge also progressing; most of the piers being above water mark.

In our family the most important item of news is the arrival of a little stranger. a daughter some 3 weeks old

I have made the acquaintance of Mr Jesup of Dubuque, and like him

Our State Geological Survey is sleeping over, for a longer appropriation

I suppose at this time you are presiding over the American Scientific Association at Providence of which I hope to hear some account in the public papers.

How does the B[illegible] Survey progress. My last information from Washington stated the expectation of Mag Emory's return in the fall, when the work of publication will be commenced. quite probably I may have to come on for a few weeks to fill out my report, which is deficient as you know in the names of the new plants to be furnished by you

I have not heard very lately from Mr Schott. by this time he must

have nearly completed the arduous part of this survey.

I have lost sight entirely of Dr Bigelow since he paid me a visit in April though I have written him several times. He will not deign me an answer.

What is Dr Gray doing now?

Any news from Wright?

I subscribe your journey as usual one summering in the country.

I like Hay one well.

I rec'd from California the publication of the Academy of Nat Sciences, containing numerous descriptions of new plants. Have you seen it? Its character as a scientific production seems rather questionable. but since of the information is valuable. Hoping to hear from you soon

I remain most truly yours

C C Parry.

TORREY CORRESPONDENCE

Chas. Dewey Esq.

Waukesha Wisconsin

December 13th 1858.

TORREY CORRESPONDENCE
HL BRADLEY
COLORADO HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Dr Torrey

My Dear Sir;

My last letter misled you in the expectation I held out of soon visiting New York. I had occasion soon after writing to change my plans, and feeling the need of some change of scene & occupation. I have come out to this northern region & spend a few weeks, with my old friend (also well known to your family) Rev? A B Bullions. I have also called on Lapham and expect to see him again before I return to Davenport.

The place (20 miles west of Milwaukee) is the seat of Carroll College, one of our struggling western institutions of learning contending with poverty, & inadequate support, seeking encouragement in the future, as compensation for past trials, & present privations. The location is a good one, and had they sufficient endowment to secure the means of instruction, they might go on very comfortably. Mr Bellows is Prof. of Languages &, Nat. Science is poorly provided for, being mostly supplied by irregular lectures. They want me to come on next Summer & give them a short course on Botany. I am to give a lecture before leaving on "the claims of Nat. Science as a branch of Liberal education" & hope to stir them up a little on this subject

I heard from Schott lately. She seems quietly working away at his Isthmian notes. & hoping to get under fray soon. I am sorry to hear that the B[illegible] B[illegible] is to be cut short by the mission of Grasses. I hope you will soon find some proper medium of making it public. Lashham seems to have made some calculations for working up North American Gramineae, and expected to get a job from the Patents office in that line.

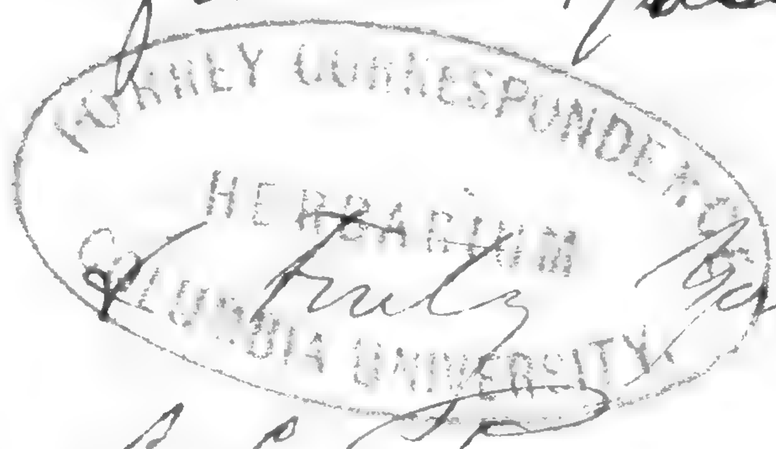
What about Newberry's plants from the basin of the Colorado? Do they clear up any doubtful specimens of former expeditions? When are they to be published? What prospect of new Expeditions next season? What will you get when the B[illegible] B[illegible] is through hands?

I expect to remain west this winter & complete the arranging & labelling of my herbarium & next summer I expect to be rather migratory & may be at the East part of the time.

I suppose your family is settled down to winter quarters. I should like very well to drop in upon you and have a chat with you in the 4th Story —

I do not expect to reach home till after New Years; after which I shall hope to hear from you

Very respectfully



Truly Yours
C. C. Parry

Washington Feby 22 1853

Dr Torrey

My Dear Sir;

I write you from New Orleans 26th ult informing you of my arrival on route for Washington - I also stated that I had sent you by Adams & Co Express from New Orleans the parcel of plants I had with me It was directed to 67 Crosby St. and ought to have gone by the Steam Ship Empire which will be due in New York about 5th inst - I hope to hear soon of its safe arrival. in good order

I reached this place this morning. after an expeditious but fatiguing land trip - have just called on May Ewing handed him your letter of 24th Dec. - My plants &c brought on by May Ewing were sent in Express at New Orleans & have not yet arrived - I shall stay till they arrive and see to the settlement of my accounts. when I shall wish for leave to visit N.Y. I hope to hear from you soon, and as soon as I get mine leave will

write you more fully

Most respectfully Yours

C. C. Parry

TORREY CORRESPONDENCE
HERBARIUM
COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY

Prof. John Torrey M D
No 67. Crosby St
New York

Washington D.C. July 5th 1853

Dr Torrey

My Dear Sir:

I received your note of 2d inst. last evening, it seems good to be within such close speaking distance once more

I am glad that you find something of interest in my last collections — and as I learn that the Empire City has come in from New Orleans I am in hopes that you have now got hold of the complete set. — The boxes just in Express by Mag Envoy have not yet come to hand It includes the bulk of my collections Duplicates, seeds, &c about which I am necessarily somewhat anxious

Have heard nothing yet of Mr Schott. & Dr Bigelow. Dr B. was to return home and await orders Mr Schott. I shall expect confidently to meet week. Mr Bartlett as you probably know is now here on his defence before the Senate Committee I have just had my first introduction & interview with him — He talks very fairly but I am

rather sceptical of his good intentions.
He says that Mr Thurber & myself ought to have some general understanding. as far as he is concerned he wishes Each collector to make his own report the whole to be subsequently combined in one Vol. says that as far as he is concerned he will give every facility and in other respects does not wish to interfere He agreed in the necessity of your services as Co Calculator.— reflected somewhat on Mr Wright in making a separate publication — and also spoke slightingly of Dr Byelaws work. Cautioned me against the absorbing qualities of the Sop Engs &c &c — On the whole I hardly know what to think. I do not see how he can be unfavorably disposed toward you. but if he should be dismissed I hardly think he would allow the Collections to get in the hands of any one concerned in the general Commission work.— Could you without giving offence to Maj Emory write to Mr Bartlett and get his views Direct.!
I do not think I mentioned to you that on my way at San Antonio I had an interview with Mr Thurber, and we discussed

very amicably on various explorations - he promised to let me look over his collections the first favorable opportunity - no doubt he has many fine things - among other things he mentions many flowers & specimens of the white branched leafless Leguminosa here from the Isla & Cal. Desert. my specimens of which were lost and Mag Emory without a str. also other Leguminosae. of the Isla region his California collection as he said was not extensive as he was absent most of the time in San Francisco. & when he returned to San Diego they had all vanished ——

May Emory is quite busy now in fashionable manufacturing and I see little of him. He is up before the Senate Committee relative to the Bartlett case. You have probably seen the report of the Committee in which they decide that the offices of the Commissioners are become vacant, notwithstanding appointments in their vacations powers; which the Ch Clerk of Interior Dept says will interfere with the settlement of accounts

I am now waiting to receive the funds from New Orleans. and get my accounts settled

CORREY CORRESPONDENCE
HERBARIUM
COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY

after which I expect to get permission to go on to N York with my collections & when after have, had my home a short visit I shall be ready to go to work with you in earnest

I have just seen Dr Owen's N W geological report & includes my botanical appendix. The work is elegantly got up in quarto for a pub doc. but the botanical list is jumbled together so that it does not make a fair show. I notice a number of typographical errors but such so many as common. I applied at the Land Office to get a copy, but was refused as they said the edition was already exhausted, and a new issue ordered before distribution -

I think of nothing more to say at present & is possible that I may come on next week for I am already tired of Washington, and there is no chance of doing any work here on account of the "great noise & confusion"

Yours very Respectfully
C C Parry.

GRAY HERBARIUM
HARVARD UNIVERSITY

I would not dwell on this sad subject, had not a long experience of your kindness and interest in my personal affairs led me to express some anticipation, and possibly encouragement, that you would favorably consider the application, which I am now making, and which involves the necessity of my leaving Cincinnati for the Atlantic States, for the restoration of my health. Under the circumstances, I feel impelled to address you, and solicit from you, such information, and advice, as you may deem proper to give me, in relation to the matter. If the Christian faith in this hour of need, is found worthy of earthly hopes, I have at least the great consolation of seeing exemplified in your life, the power of sustaining

condition is noticed by all who have been called to attend her sick bed, and can only be accounted for in her case, by a hope by her that this would cause ~~of~~ pain.

Her present condition I am quite unfurnished that I can answer many queries. As regards the Effect of this Event on my future plans. I feel that I shall need change of scene, for a season at least to remove me from the depressing effects of sorrow & confinement. I think nothing would suit me better than to be connected for a short time with some Institution, as an assistant, where I should find myself among strangers and I should be free to do that if any thing offered you would know my wish on the subject — It may be that something may turn up in Utah as an occasion, with Miss Mah Sam. Operations

In answer to your queries
[illegible] to the Salazar
Ls locality — I made
in one of the Cañons of the Rio
Grande below Pueblo Del Norte
from a collection Dr Loba. The
habit is that of a sub decumbent
suffrutescent plant growing near
the edges of dried streambeds,
having about an average height
of 12 — 24 inches, [illegible]
and leaves [illegible] shrubby
flowers [illegible] the common
cultivated [illegible]
stalk bears [illegible] branches
spreading I should take about 20
days of steady [illegible] I mean
a solid [illegible] working hours
[illegible]
[illegible]

Washington DC. Feby 11th 1853

Dr Torrey

HERBARIUM
COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY.

My Dear Sir:

I write to let you know that I have just received by Express the parcel of plants we brought on by May Envoy, & that on looking them over hastily I find them in good condition. I have now before (in case you have received May parcel sent from Natchez) all my collections safely in hand & in good condition I propose to leave them for further study & collation with all my Geological data. Prof Baird having kindly furnished me facilities at the Smithsonian — and being with me to New York all my botanical data to take up, and work out, as soon as it may suit your convenience — I have also as I before told you a large assortment of Cacti, about the best Distribution of which I desire your advice and assistance — They have been made as I before mentioned with a view to foreign as well as domestic distribution, and I hope may be the means of securing to us some interesting returns

Every thing in reference to the Commission is still in the greatest confusion. Mr Bartletts examinations is still going on, He refuses to settle accounts waiting I suppose to pay first the bills of his own select American birds leaving those to have Dan the work to wait for another appropriation I have applied to him personally several times without success. while at the same time I know of his paying other accounts less just than mine - This is the way things that is now keeping Mr in Washington, I hope if you have any outstanding accounts of your own, you will send them on for settlement, for even if not paid they will be important in making an estimate for a deficiency bill.

I am as yet heard nothing of Schott or Dr Bigelow. Though I have been assisting Seaman, the animals from Texas. & the U.S. Japan. I hope to hear of or see them shortly Prof Baird is much pleased with Schotts collections including a number of new toads & snakes.

Prof. B. is trying to get hold of Bartletts Zoological collection but with small prospect of success

I think this is an index of what we may expect

in the botany line -

I expect to get on to New York next week without fail and then we can discuss matters more at leisure I hope to soon begin hearing that you have received the parcel of plants from N.C.

Truly Yours

E. L. Greene.

HERBARIUM
COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY

Prof. John Torrey, M.D.

No 67 Cedar St

New York

Sandy Hill N.Y. Feby 25th 1853

Dr. Torrey

My Dear Sir:

Not seeing you on the evening before leaving New York. I drop you this line informing you of my arrival once more at my old home.

I left in your office in the Drawer containing my Geological Specimens. The two sets of seeds intended for Europe. If you think they had better be sent immediatly will you be kind enough to see them properly packed & directed. Should you consider that there would be no harm in a delay of some 10 days. You can wait till my return.

Should there come letters for me to your care will you also be kind enough to forward them within the time specified.

I wish on my return to N.Y. in accordance with the wishes of Maj Emory to make some permanent arrangement for board, convenient to the College where I can assist you in working on our plants and be ready to obey any further orders from Maj Emory. in reference to the Nat Hist. work

I intend to write shortly to Maj E.— giving a statement of what will be necessary, to carry out our

plans and hope to get matters arranged shortly on a
Satisfactory basis

We have cold weather & fine Skating in these
Boreal regions I was glad to find my friends
well

With much respect

Yours truly

Chas E Faroy

COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY.

Davenport Iowa Jan 7th 86

My Dear Dr Torrey.

It seems as if losing my hold on B Dang. was equivalent to loosing your friendly acquaintance. It is many years since there has been such a gap in our correspondence as now.

I have been trying to hear from somebody some news of the movements of the BJ Co and the prospects of seeing something in print of our doings heretofore. No doubt you have met Maj Emory before this & learned something of his plans. also Sch. W. who ought to know a heap. budgets of news & specimens. I only learn through a round about source that the office work is to be pushed through: and Maj Emory take his place in the Cavalry line U.S.A.

I have only lately heard of your resignation as Prof. in the Medical College, not without regret on view of pleasant recollections of your duties in the Chemical Chair.

I suppose as the duties of your office do not require "brains" we shall have the benefit of yours in a more secondary field, the "consummation devoutly to be wished". Is the N.A. Flora coming out soon? May I ask you the stereotype answer -

I often think of yourself & family and pay you imaginary visits being now the head of a family myself and engrossed in family cares I have to confine my visitations to imaginary ones.

I thought probable that duty would have required my presence in the revision of your report or preparation for publication

I suppose you are all busied with the plants & have your

Energies & Salaries. all
cut & dried.

At present I am occupied in
business arrangements. Trying to put
my property in shape to yield me
a revenue. I have in prospect
this season some building improvements
which will require me to make
a loan of several Thousand Dollars,
by making the improvements
proposed I can realize 25 to 30
per cent on city property now
unproductive. I can afford
10 per cent (legal interest) for the
amount I wish to borrow secured
by bond & mortgage on the property
improved. If you or any of your
Capitalist friends would like an
investment of this kind I think
I could make the matter satisfactory
to both parties, It is entirely out
of the question to secure a loan out
here. without paying exhorbitant interest
Capital being in such demand

Our City & State are making
rapid advances in population enterprise
& wealth. The time were R R
runs west & will bound from the
Pacific of course. Our Mississ. bridge
is near completion. They
expect to cross Train next
Spring. So that when you come
to see me you may make
your just acquaintance with
the "Father of Waters & Mud
river. D "on a rack".
Pray let me hear from you
& concerning & know something
of what is going on in the
botanical world
With much kind remembrance
to the various members of your
family
I am very truly yours
L. L. Lamb.

New Orleans Jany 25th 1853

Dr Torrey

Dear Sir

I have just arrived here on my way to Washington. Shall leave to night by Southern Mail route. I have just sent by Adams Express addressed to you No 67 Cross St the parcel of Plants I brought with me from Eagle Pass. You ought to receive them soon after this letter comes to hand. Before then reaches you I expect to be in Washington when I hope to receive a letter from you and shall write you Schott is alive behind but no doubt on his way I have a letter from you addressed to May Envoy post marked Dec 24 ult which I shall have to him. The main bulk of my Plants I am going on with May 5. to Washington. It is uncertain how long I may be detained there before going on to New York.

Please keep account of what is paid for the parcel sent Togus

In haste yours Truly

C C Parry

TORREY CORRESPONDENCE
HERBARIUM
COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY.

Davenport Iowa July 15th 1858

My Dear Dr Torrey

Since last writing you I have passed through the sad scenes of final separation from my dear Companion, and am realizing daily the solitude of our situation — Still I am in search of comfort and a place, and expect it is the part of true Christians to cherish them, and I trust I may find that Christian submission through grace which is a wise & in the end even a kind dispensation I find the benefit of keeping busy and in working order. I am just recovering from a bad cough. I am just of late I have been [illegible] work in arranging my Botanical collections. Such beautiful

for want of room, & since have been
lying in suspense & torture, I have
now a large loft at my disposal
reached by a movable ladder, so
that I need not fear disturbance
and here I spend several hours
every day. — I have also just
received copies of the Pacific RR
Reports, all of which is replete
with interest. Lately I made a
short visit to S. Eastman Johnson
called on an old Dartmouth classmate
"Milwaukie Lapham." unfortunately
not finding him at home, but
by consent of his good lady I
took a look at his collections.
I admired. I was much pleased
with the look of Wisconsin?
visited being some 30 miles west
of Milwaukie. It is an undulating
farming region — Climate being the
only objection — It is spotted all
over with small & large bodies of

water being the source of small streams emptying into the Missouri & singular feature of this Country is the vast amount of granite blocks scatted over the surface of the country. not sufficient to interfere with farming operations, but as you may say pretty well peppered. — I returned home by way of the Mississippi River. crossing in a nearly direct line from Milwaukee to Chicago.

I have heard from Dr Bigelow, also Schott, & A. not about Emmons to hear from Newberry, on his return from the Colorado Survey. ? Do you know anything in regard to the Expedition, Barnard & Doc. & the Captain, the Expedition is being organized? The general impression here is that we will encounter hostilities & trouble, & much depends upon it's success.

GEOLOGY LIBRARY
COLORADO UNIVERSITY

The interesting region lies on the
deep inlet making up of the
Eastern side of Sierra Nevada, and
the upper Forks of Kern. I think
I can obtain the Plants & take
a passing Visit to these regions.
What pursuit is making with
the 2d Vol Junci &c? I
notice in Newberry report that
I see has completed, Quite
as the Dicotyledons of Specimens,
in which the Juncus Tribe may
bounded, whereas the original Specimens
as you no doubt are aware were
from me.

I suppose Torrey & Gray
are going ahead merrily, retreat Plum
& matter of fact as usual
at present to Mexico
with Emory

Respectfully & Truly Yours
E Bourgeau

AUBREY CORRESPONDENCE
HERBARIUM
COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY.

and.
June 17.

Davenport Iowa June 8th 1853

TORREY CORRESPONDENCE
HERBARIUM
COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY

My Dear Dr:

I received your note from New York some time since, having recovered my usual health. I have busied myself in running about the country, including a trip up the Mississippi as far as Galena. I am now beginning to expect news from Maj Emory with orders either to join him on return to the East and work at my report. In case of the latter I shall proceed at once to Sandy Hill where are now all my notes &c - and commence work in earnest. I hope at the same time you will have something to show to encourage the Regn.

I have lately received a letter forwarded from home from California

My old Scientific acquaintance Randall
He states that the results of his
Property Speculations have made him
worth a Million. The income from a
single source being $25,000. He still
pays attention to Nat Hist'y, including
Botany, says that he thinks he has
at present the best herbarium of Eastern
& Californian plants. Lobb the English
collector is still in that region. has
been to Oregon and expects to spend
the present season in Southern Cal^a
near Los Angelles, & San Diego.— His
collections by this time must be very
extensive & I presume have been shipped
from time to time to England.

Dr Andrews. had just returned from
a trip to Australia connected with
some mercantile transaction. had collected
to a small extent. I told Randall that
he must bear you in mind. & send
whatever he can. and make good use

of his wealth for the cause of Science
I think it would be well if you
could send him a copy of Pl. Fiennorth
his adress is - A Randall, Care
of James King of Wm. San Francisco
I have lately heard of your old
Comrade Dr Edwin James; who is
now a wealthy farmer living near
Burlington in this State. he has
but Son an only child lately married.
I am collecting small fish &
reptiles of this Section for Prof Baird.
The meeting of the Scientific Association
is delayed to the latter part of July
so that I think it handy Instable
that I can attend. as my Vacation
will close after I get my orders.
I am glad to hear that you have
your study so pleasantly arranged
and the Dog-Days ~~have~~ gone by into the
Country. I suppose you will work hard
When do you go to see Dr Gray?

I hope to hear from you before
leaving here, and shall inform
you duly of my movements. Have
you not surprised to hear that
Dr Bigelow had taken the field
again under Lt Whipple?
I suppose you hear from Scott
Please present my kind regards
to your family & believe me
Very Truly Yours
C C Pauly

Sandy Hill March 5th 1853

Dr. Torrey,

My Dear Sir:

I received your note of 28th ult- also the letter kindly forwarded at the same date the latter was from my old Comrade Dr. Byelow who in company with Mr Schott was on his homeward journey up the Ohio River. Probably before this you have heard of the safe arrival of the latter at Washington.

About the printing matter referred to in your note perhaps it would be as well to pay the bill with a protest against its injustice and send a statement of the same to Dr Owen who I think would not sanction any meanness. - I notice however that the name attached to the bill is not that of the publishers of the Original Report (Lippincott & Grambo) and perhaps they may throw some light on the matter. At any rate I would not wish you to get the ill will of anyone on my account and I shall be well satisfied to pay the account and know better next time

I have lately written May Emory an official letter asking to be informed at this

earliest convenience of the decision in reference to the Nat' Hist'l report. the means applicable thereto. and suggesting a more liberal policy in the use of the necessary funds. especially to those engaged in the duties of Collaborators.

I think we may rely having all these matters satisfactorily arranged as soon as the new party get well agoing — It will perhaps be well for us to go on shortly to Washington and have an understanding on the details of our plan and I shall suggest the same when I write next to May E. The appropriation of $70,000, if it has passed Congress will I think include the funds needful for our purpose.

I think I had better come down to New York by the middle of next week. (Wednesday or Thursday. So as to get fairly to work on the week following I feel quite freshened up by my country visit. and can afford to work pretty hard for a while

Please then retain in your hands any letters for me after this date and I shall expect to see you in a day or two after you get this

Respectfully & truly Yours

C. C. Parry.

Ans'd - sent letter in care of D. Engelmann

TORREY BOTANICAL CLUB
HERBARIUM
COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY

Davenport March 30th 1861

My Dear Dr Torrey

I have been on the point of writing you several times, but many engagements have interfered. Having just recd yours of 25th I will answer at once. I expect to start for the west via St Louis about the middle of next month (April) and get the benefit of the full moon to light me over the plains so as to reach the Mts at Bents by 1st May. I shall be glad of a letter from you to the Clerk, as I have before been recommended to them as prominent bankers in Denver. Please direct to Care of Dr Engelmann in St Louis where I shall be probably till 20th prox°. I will perhaps write you again from there. when my plans are definitely arranged

I have not heard directly from Dr Gray for some time. but shall get well posted in regard to his views through Engelmann. The latter writes frequently and takes great interest in my proposed trip. has made a conditional arrangement for me to correspond for the St Louis Republican.

Mrs P. & child will go on East to her fathers in Conn. and spend the summer I shall probably do most of my botanical correspondence with Dr Engelmann.. but when I get hold of any matters in which you take special interest will not fail to write you. I am glad to notice that a new P.O. arrangement permits the mailing of "cuttings" (i.e. bot Specimens) at book rates of postage of which I intend to avail myself quite freely I do not expect to do much in the mineralogical line unless I should stumble accidentally on a "pile of rocks"

I am satisfied from numerous enquiries. That the facilities of

Examining that region will be better than was before, and I think I shall be able to command wagon transportation most of the time. My plan will be to select some central point, from which to make minor Excursions in different directions & explore high peaks. Shall probably work my way some distance South & West of the main divide, much however will depend on the facilities afforded and I expect to save considerable labor by acting on your suggestion & letting well known common plants alone by. Except in noting their Geographical range I am glad to hear that you are not to be disturbed in your official seat at the Assay Office which I hope will hold you during good behaviour or like Supernumeraries Hope with you that the political sky will become clearer. I have great confidence in Mr Seward's plan of adjustment. time & circumspection

for a week last I have had a
[illegible] of my time & thoughts engrossed
the sudden illness & fatal death of
my friend and your old pupil Dr Fowler
His case is likely to excite great interest
in the medical world. in connexion with
the poisonous effects of chlorate of Potash
You probably know that Dr F has been
prominent in introducing this article
into medical practice. under the view
that it acts as a blood depurating agent
in supplying Oxygen through the circulation
I think Dr F. got his first ideas on that
matter from your lectures. though carrying
them out further than you intended. I take
he had been much engaged in discussing
the subject & its alleged poisonous qualities
and took the ground that a pure article
was almost entirely harmless. Before being
taken sick he had experimented on himself
taking frequent doses. as high as 1/2 oz
and satisfied with this. he took 1 oz
and about 10 hours after was attacked with
inflamation of the stomach. complete
suppression of urine. terminating
fatally in 7 Days.

the post mortem which I attended
& has revealed extensive disease
of the whole abdominal viscera
kidneys engorged with blood. & also
several points crystals supposed to be
chlorate of potash imbedded in
the urineferous tubes. The case
will be carefully reported on and
when published I will send you
the full account. It was in every
sense a most distressing occurrence
His wife an intelligent & accomplished
lady was absent at the East on
a visit to his friends. but was
telegraphed & returned in time to
receive his parting words. He was
very much esteemed in this community
as a physician and a man & had
fair to attain eminence in the
profession; Was an indefatigable
student. a fine writer and a
genial companion. His last

sickness developed. a most admirable
Christian Experience. While suffering
acutely. & feeling conscious of
the great mistake he had made
in not asking all God was valuable
in this life in a theoretical experience
he still looked calmly on the
approach of death. trusting
entirely to the Saviour as the only
ground of hope for the life to
come. It was a privilege to
wait on his sick bed & hear
his repeated expressions of confidence
in the great atonement he poured
his communications to his unpendent friends
& his earnest words of consolation
addressed to his bereaved family
I have dwelt on this case, more
than I intended D. being uppermost in
my thoughts, and as I knew you had
some acquaintance with the Dr
Yours truly
R. C. Parry

fatally in 7 Days.

Davenport Iowa

May 17th 1858

IOWA CORRESPONDENCE
ALBRAICH
COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY

My Dear Dr Torrey.

I send you to day by Express a copy of the Geology of Iowa it is quite nicely got up and I think will be of some interest to you especially as far as relates to Coal matters.

I hear that the Mex Bd. Bldg is issued at last. and beg leave to remind you of your promise to secure some Extra copies of plates. If you can inform me what the expense will be per set I will let you know what number I can take & remit you the amount. Schott says that the edition to be issued is quite limited & full copies will be difficult to get

As it is several months since I heard from you, I can only infer that you are still moving in the better circles dividing your time between Wales St St Marks Place. and soon your country retreat.. I am spending my Summer also in the country living on my farm and engaged in practical botanizing though y a very limited range I much prefer it to town life especially at this season of the year. How much I should enjoy a ramble with you over our fresh rolling prairies and uplands now garnished with their Spring floral Dress.

I do not expect now to go on East till towards fall. My brother John who called on you last winter is lying in a very critical condition his disease have assumed the form of an internal abscess. connected with the bladder. consequently there is

no prospect of his recovery & I look daily to hear word of some unfavorable change in his symptoms.

The harvest prospects in this section & throughout the west generally are very favorable, this together with the war prospects in Europe is considered quite encouraging to the producing interests and looked forward to as the means of relieving present embarassment and commencing a new Era of prosperity.

I shall be glad to hear from you at your convenience, and learn what is going on in the botanical line, as well as any personal news.

My regards to your family

Very truly your friend

C. C. Parry

THE CALIFORNIA ALMOND.—We have been shown some beautiful specimens of California almonds discovered by that indefatigable naturalist, Dr. TRASK, growing wild in the mountains back of San Jose. They are at least half again as large as the imported nut, and are represented to be of delicious flavor. The tree upon which they grew was about 19 feet high, and loaded with fruit. The specimens exhibited to us, consisted of a fully ripe almond, and another just bursting its green hull, with a branch and leaves attached.

M.

Sandy-Hill N y Oct 11th 1853

Dr Torrey

My Dear Sir:-

I received your letter slip of 26th ult. enclosed in the Texas envelope. Your surmises of its contents were true. I wonder you have no accompanying news of the Surveying Party. I am quite anxious to hear, though in hopes the Major himself will soon make his appearance.

I expect to go down to New York at the time when Dr Gray makes you his visit. Then we may have all our botanical matters fairly talked over - I dont know whether I mentioned to you that Thurber had applied to Dr Gray to publish his plants. I would certainly like to see them in the Dr's hands. who would not only do justice to the discoveries but prevent injustice being done to others. Do you know what conclusion he has come to about them?

I have to say a late letter from my California correspondent Randall. He mentions that Lobb the English collector is still there has been spending the season in the vicinity of Los Angelles. Found in that region a new pine. also an Abies n sp. He tells me the Mammoth Cedar we have heard so much about is an undescribed Species of Taxodium! very near

quite different from the one we know.

He has also specimens of the new Torreya-foliage, fruit, & wood sections. He supposed it a species of "Podocarpus." probably so called by Mr Lobb. He makes numerous enquiries for publications on Californian botany, wants your notes on the species of Juglans referred to in Transactions of Scientific Association. Says his herbarium is quite large but managed as yet he being unversed in business matters.

Dr Andrews is with him engaged in the business of raising swine. He promised to write soon.

This is about the substance of his letter and some of the items will no doubt interest you.

We ought to get hold of some of these things and I think the best plan would be to send something nice in the way of publications. &c. requesting plants in return. I think he gets his plants mostly from Lobb. who probably does not let them out of his hands without seeing that his employers have the first chance. would it not be well to write to Sir Wm Hooker and see what is doing with Lobbs collections.

TORREY CORRESPONDENCE
HERBARIUM
COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY

I suppose by this time you are settled in winter quarters with your family. I hope to drop in upon you soon. and till then with best wishes remain

Yours very truly
C. C. Parry.

Sandy Hill Oct.r 23rd. 1857

Dr. Torrey.

Dear Sir

My son Charles wished me to send the inclosed books to you to forward to him in New Mexico.

Will you have the goodness to inform me if they arrive safe by the Express and oblige

Your humble servt

Joseph Parry

Dr. Doney

New York

NEW YORK HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION
COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY.

Davenport Iowa
October 28th 1868

My Dear Dr Torrey

I am in receipt
of your very Kind note of 22d inst
I have received so many repeated
evidences of your kind regard during
the past 20 years that I could not
misinterpret even a long silence, and
knowing moreover the engrossing character
of your engagements I was perfectly
satisfied to wait on your friendly movements
Still holding the same views as
heretofore expressed I can but thank
you most cordially for your interest
in securing for me (prospectively) a
position. that on many accounts seems
particularly Desirable: and which I
shall feel bound to accept. and endeavor
to fill to the best of my ability. The
delay you mention in the matter of

appointment. wile also suit me. in affording time to finish up my western business. only I should wish to have the matter made reasonably certain. I suppose the Duties of the position wile not interfere with summer Excursions. which in my case on the score of health wile be almost a necessity. and wile be of course in the interest of Botanical Science. It wile be so Easy down to penetrate to an interior Mountain District - that a great deal can be accomplished on the way of Exploration in a short time. I have had in view to join the Geological party next season. working East of Salt Lake in the high mountain region. and should be sorry to lose the opportunity - - also (perhaps fancifully) I would like to accompany a party through the Great Canon of the Colorado. which is likely to be

undertaken next Season.
But all this will be matter for
subsequent consideration. after I
go on. and see "how the land lies."
It will be something of a trial
to break up all my western associations
social and business. and I shall
retain some interests here that may
eventually draw me back. I have
always taken a deep interest in
western educational movements. and
lately have had some correspondence
with a view to securing a position
in some of our State Universities. but
there are many objectionable features
which time may perhaps partially
remove. and an Engagement such as
now proposed would necessarily add to
my qualifications, and standing — so
that in every view of the case I
cannot but view it in the most
favorable light

I have heard from Engelmann lately. Seem to be in Rome. We are all disappointed in the working up of Pinus in DC. Prod. P. Torreyana omitted entirely — the old style of classification in the use of leaves &c &c Engelmann threatens had a new revision and will fight it out with Prof Parlatore in his own soil —

Bolander writes that a friend of his had collected this Spring a bushel of cones of P. Torreyana from my original locality —

Glad to hear the interesting family news. Mrs P. and myself remember with much pleasure our pleasant interviews at the College domicile.

I enclose a rather stiff vignette but a good likeness.

Yours most Sincerely

C. C. Parry

Have you a copy of my Cairn report?

New York. April 12

(12 Ap 1849. - [illegible])

COLUMBIA COLLEGE LIBRARY
HEDCAHUM
COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY

Dear Sir

Answering here I have called on Mr Blount. who accompanied me to the Crescent City where I have engaged a berth for $115; Mr Blount says there was only $100. left with him. and says that the Thanks I shall meet Major Emory Thank no provision had been complaining made for the transportation of his company Mr Aspinwall has written to Washington on the subject. I think I will take a boat up the Hudson this evening and return by Saturday morning I will raise funds sufficient to carry me to Panama and then I assure it will be safe to depend on the provision made by Major Emory I hope you will come to Town next week Monday — It is near there

In haste

Chas C Pinckney

Tuesday 1/14 Crescent City. off Sandy Hook

(17 Apl 1841)

Dr Dorsey

Dear Sir.

As I have an opportunity to send you a line by the return pilot boat I improve it to let you know, that all is right. I had wished to see you, and supposed you have either written or passed me in the crowd at our departure it will however not make much difference as the Falcon sails on Thursday and any wine or other matters you may want to send will find me at Panama.

I have taken with me 2 reams of foolscap paper, and in case I should need more I presume you can send it. With what you sent on before, I shall at least have enough for the first season. and if I continue in the region another season, I could procure it by the way of Cape Horn. I have made my baggage as light as possible, and hope to meet with no difficulty in crossing the Isthmus.

There was some letters I was to procure from you of introduction &c. there you will remember to send, Did you hear from Maj Emory by the Falcon?

You could probably send any small articles by hand —

I did not return from up the river till

LIBRARY OF COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY

Saturday Evening. Called on Dr Simons at Albany. who gave me some directions in reference to my geological observations

I shall proceed to-morrow Sunday on board well to-day. you will soon as I ~~receive~~ get to Panama

very respectfully

Chas C Parry

BOTANICAL LABORATORY
HERBARIUM
COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY.



Prof. John Torrey

Princeton

New Jersey

(19 Apr 1851?)

TORREY CORRESPONDENCE
HERBARIUM
COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY.

TORREY CORRESPONDENCE
HERBARIUM
COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY.

Gorgona. April 28th 1849

Dr Torrey

Dear Sir

I am sitting at a table by the side of Col. Hughs of the railroad survey. whose name I remember to hear you mention, and I have accordingly hunted him up. — I concluded to drop you a line by the return of the Crescent city — to inform you that I had arrived safely at this point within a day's ride of Panama.

TORREY COLLECTION OF BOTANY
COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY

Col Hughs informs me that Maj Emory is still detained at Panama. and has made arrangements to transport the Company on the Steamer Panama when she arrives. Capt Bailey who is to command her was a passenger in the Crescent City.

We made the voyage without any particular incidents in a little less than 9 days. The difficulties of the trip up the Chagres river have been much exaggerated. it is a very pretty excursion, and you may be sure I enjoyed my first view of tropical vegetation, which is almost bewildering to a northern botanist

Dr Halsted is now at Panama and I shall meet him there. I learn he has made a fine collection of plants & specimens of wood.

If I have any thing special to write from Panama
I will do so by the Falcon. if you receive nothing
you may suppose that every thing is going on well
I do not think of any thing to add. as I know
not what you may have written me. The means
of transportation across the Isthmus. are improving
as some Yankees have got hold of it and the
Pacific seems to be the stirring point for the
Gold. seekers. — I hope we shall not be detained
long at Panama. for I am anxious to get into
the field. to work, The rainy season is not yet set
in. we have had almost uninterrupted fine weather
With much respect I am

Yours truly
Chas C. Parry

TORREY CORRESPONDENCE
HERBARIUM
COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY.

{ Per Express Coy

NEW YORK
MAY 12

Prof. John Torrey M D

Princeton

New Jersey

Camp S. Falls St Croix. Minnesota. Aug 18th

Dr Torrey.

PRINCETON
HERBARIUM
COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY.

Dear Sir.

Having a little leisure on my hands, & presuming you would like to know something of my movements in the botanical line, I thought I'd give you a slight sketch. Since writing you last I have been pretty actively engaged in making collections at various points, having been necessarily attached to geological parties & have not had all the opportunity I could desire to carry me south to the best advantage, but still, as any list, will show my observations have not been devoid of interest; for the first part of the season, including the month of June, & part of July, I accompanied a party up the St Peters & Blue Earth, on which route I was able to collect many of the plants characteristic of the "Coteau des Prairies." As the following Castilleja sessiliflora, Pinaxia Engelmanni (with specimens of the root) Senecio integerrimus, Amorpha nana, Liatris glaucus, Orobanche fasciculata, Talinum teretifolium, Plantago cynops, Lygodesmia juncea Opuntia ferox, Oxytropis Lambertii, Carex stipata (hystricina)? Anemones, (several species) Potentilla pensylvanica Sagittaria ? Hypoxis Sophanthus amicatus, Lysimachia thyrsiflora, Orobanche ludoviciana (In a singular isolated location on an Indian grave) —— Vaseyi (Amorpha) Astragalus Carycocarpus. fl & fr.) (Of ala these I believe I have abundant duplicates.

I have been more particularly interested however in the last unexplored part of the country, which would well repay an entire season's explorations. Early in the season I found on the banks of the Miss. below Lake Pepin

Valeriana ciliata — Viola delphinifolia, Pentstemon grandiflorus
Synthris. Houghtonii, Geum triflorum. Elegant specimens
in flower & fruit. Anemone patens. (abundant north
& Galena) —

On the St Croix mostly near Stillwater.
Mimulus Jamesii. (your Geyeri) Alnus glutinosa.
Vaccinium canadense, v. Myginthia lepidota. — later in
the season. Linnaea alpicaulis, also a small pinnate leaved
Potentilla, perhaps paradoxa. —

In this vicinity where I have been over a week
exploring the interesting Trap rocks, I have found many
of the plants common to northern N.Y. — I find near
our camps. Three species of Lophanthus, anisatus, nepetoides
& scrophulariaefolius. of which I have improved the opportunity
of making a living comparison: it would seem that
Dr Gray has somewhat confounded the two latter in his
descriptions, as the first paragraph, in each seems to be misplaced
— The L anisatus, is a very handsome species, with a very
agreeable taste & odour. — I also found here the enclosed
fern, which I think must be a new species of
Polystichum, not answering to the description of aculeatum.
as you have the means of comparison you can determine
the point. if new, it ought to bear the name of fragrans
as it was this that first led me to its detection. I have
written out a full description but as I have the opportunity
to send you the plant itself will not trouble you with it.
I found it in only one isolated position on the Trap rocks.
Of course I have preserved all the specimens I could.
(I wish the name of this genus could have been Peltosiros)

From this necessarily hasty sketch you will be
able to form some notion of my labours.

I expect soon to continue on to Lake Superior &
which though late in the season will I hope afford some

interesting additions —

It is probable I shall return to Davenport by the way of Lake Michigan & Milwaukee, where I expect to see your Correspondent, Mr Lapham. It is also my intention on returning to the East in the latter part of the season, to make a excursion west, for the purpose of forming acquaintance with botanists in the different western States, & collecting information. It is partly my object in visiting the East this winter, to endeavour to make arrangements for continuing my botanical observations & collections in this region, or any other, as I have come to the determination to devote my entire attention to the subject. I would like to be able to do so with satisfaction to myself, and advancement of the cause of botanical science. If you can aid me therein by any advice or recommendation I should be sincerely obliged — I have thought that, by a combination of different societies and individuals, the burden of my employment as a collector would be comfortably light — ——

I should be glad if you could meet me, by a letter, at Davenport, about the middle of Oct, containing any requests you may have to make of specimens in my collection; I expect to have the pleasure of the distribution of duplicate specimens, of which at any rate I shall secure the largest number by exchange, for specimens of my private collection the last season; in my report I expect to embody the observations of the two seasons together

Please sir excuse the haste & errors in the above which your kindness will attribute to the inconveniences of a Camp life & believe me very respectfully

Your Friend

Prof. John Torrey MD

Tho.s C. Parry

HERBARIUM

Prof. John Torrey M.D.

Sandy-Hill. Aug 28th 1851

JOHN TORREY CORRESPONDENCE
HERBARIUM
COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY

My Dear Doctor;

Your sudden departure from Albany. prevented me from ascertaining your wishes in reference to my coming Down and assisting you in the final completion of the list of Plants.

My Envoy appears to be quite urgent in reference to the completion of the work. and hopes I shall be able to come on to Washington. early in Sept. I should much prefer however to put it off till. Oct. by which time I should hope to have all the materials, on hand for finishing up the job, as far as I am concerned.

I wish however mainly to consult your own convenience. and knowing the anxieties you must soon be occupied with in the prospect of removing, and also of assuming your duties at the College. I think it would be your desire to bring these matters to a speedy close.

I have thought of proposing to come down by the middle of Sept. next. should the time suit your Perhaps by that time Dr Gray will be able to expedite the matter by taking some of the labor off your hands.

I have written to May Envoy on this subject also in reference to Dr Le Conte. with regard to the

latter I hope satisfactory arrangements will be made, though the shortness of time allowed will be an obstacle unless the Maya can be prevailed to hang on for the coming winter —

Please let me know your wishes in reference to the above subject and believe me to be

Most Sincerely Yours

Chas. C. Parry.

HERBARIUM
COLLEGE UNIVERSITY.

Eagle Pass Texas Dec 24th 1852

TORREY CORRESPONDENCE
HERBARIUM
COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY

My Dear Dr.

I have just mailed for you a Christmas present in a parcel of plants, including samples of my last trips gatherings. The medium is rather contracted, but I hope that Plants & They will not "fall out by the way", and some of them I think will not be uninteresting; My larger specimens must wait some other conveyance. — I wanted to send you with them a fine sp Eriogonum from Mt Carmel but it was obstinate & would not go in

I received since my last, your kind note of Nov 8th. The Botanical trio. Dr B, Schott, & myself, being equally favored, we are having quite a social time together, and pull plants to pieces, with a vengeance. This is perhaps the main reason why I am holding on in this desert part of the world, for I have been several times on the point of starting, and am now as far from it as ever, at present I am in charge of the Army hospital, while the regular Surgeon, is absent on a months furlough.

We heard quite lately from Maj Emory, who is still at Ruggold barracks, below, but no news — The Commissioner has not yet been heard of, and I cannot see any news yet from Congress. We are expecting to see the President's Message this week mail.

I received from Dr Englemann some loose sheets from Silliman's Journal for Nov last, containing some notes on my Californian Cacti. The Dr seems wonderfully zealous in this branch, and it is quite a satisfaction to consult him & any information is on hand.

I was glad to hear of Dr Trask's safe arrival, with botanical collections, I have taken much interest in his contemplated route, and have made frequent inquiries in reference to the Expedition, but had not heard before of its final accomplishment. I did not meant the Fitch in California, any head of him. Have you ever got any thing from my old comrade out there Dr Andrews? Would not it be a nice thing if might, could go out & explore Northern California which must be now tolerably accessible & the enterprise of

miners, & merchants, I have no doubt he might add to his well earned laurels from that region —

We are having pleasant weather dry, & not cold, but no plants yet though Dr Gr is busy, & busy them out, & taking long pedestrian excursions in the vicinity, he generally brings home my antiqua specimens, and quere roots. Mr & Mrs Scott start next week for Sta Rosa, a spot which I passed though hastily on my return trip to this place — It is a most lovely valley, and would well repay an exploration in the flowering season. It also contains Silver mines. This must be a [illegible] section directly about here, consisting of rolling but wide sandy plains, & open valleys, I do not wonder that Mr Scott was disgusted with it.

I want to persuade Mrs Gray to let Mr Scott go for a short time to St Louis, and assist Dr Engelmann, in sketchi, Cacti, being convinced they would no doubt work well together, and it would no doubt be a mutual advantage.

I now think that it is about as well for me to get through the winter here at the south, and work my way to New York next Spring, most probably staying

GRAY CORRESPONDENCE
HERBARIUM
COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY

my western home a visit on the way. This will prevent the pleasure of my long anticipated winter's study with you, but I have learned to be at least patient under such frustrations.

What will be done with the Mat Hosley materials collected in our survey must I suppose be shortly determined. I have no doubt if Mr Henry continues in charge that the working up, will be done in a liberal style. and the final publication put in the hands of the Smithsonian —

I think that the Scotts write you by this mail and will tell best his own story. Please give my respects to Mr Wright if still with you, and remember me kindly to the members of your family -

Most sincerely Yours

C C Jones

Rec'd March 18th 1850

San Diego Jan 26th 1850

TORREY CORRESPONDENCE
U. S. D. A.
COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY

Dr Torrey

Dear Sir

Various circumstances have prevented me from addressing you since my return from the Colorado among others a severe attack of dysentery which confined me to my bed for two weeks, during which time I received your note of Oct 12th I am now however entirely recovered

We left the mouth of Gila on the 1st Dec. and by a rather hurried march reached San Diego on 11th Do. I was glad of an opportunity of following a new route, which leaving the old road at Carriso Creek, crosses the mountains in a more direct westerly course, not far from the boundary line, coming out near our old camp at foot of the bay. The route at any other season would be very interesting At the time we passed the higer ridges were covered with snow, the scenery however is far from wintery in its aspect, nearly all the shrubery being Evergreen, and a few flowers struggle out in sheltered places.- There are at least 3 species of Evergreen scrub oak.- which I collected in fruit- The route is more abundantly supplied with grass and water than the old one. and with the exception of the first ascent on the Eastern slope which proceeds at once to the summit (3,000 ft+) is a good route for pack trains.- The route was discovered by Mr Gray Surveyor of the Commission.- On descending to the coast, we exchanged the bleak snow-chilled winds for the bland air of the Pacific.- The rains had clothed

the dry hills. we had left in Sept. with a rich green—the ground covering where wetted with Erodium. Cicutarium, and fresh grass in the valleys.— Since that time we have had a continuation of pleasant weather, alternating with rainy disagreeable spells, but generally fine sunshiny Spring weather. The thermometer ranging from 45° to 65° F. There has been but 2 frosts in San Diego —

At present there is quite a number of fine plants in blossom, also, some new genus I had not seen before, and some mosses, & Liverworts,— so that for the first time in my life I am kept busy botanizing in mid-winter

You have doubtless been informed by May Emory of the state of our affairs here, on my return I found most of the Commission dispersed, and everything to indicate a general break up. The Commissioner (Col Weller) is now here settling up the affairs, and the joint Commission, is to be adjourned to El Paso, for next Nov. in the mean time we are offered our discharges, & Cashiered for pay due, and allowance of $300. transportation; as the funds of the Commission are entirely exhausted, no money can be got,— My medical pay has fortunately made me in a measure independent.— I have drawn nothing from the Commission except my travelling expenses, and taking up to April last

Under all the circumstances of the case I have concluded to apply for my discharge next month, and proceed up the country by land, to Monterey,— I have received an invitation from a Scientific friend, who was connected with the Geological Survey of N.W. (Mr Randal) to come and spend

the season with him — He is Collector & the Bot. and anticipates engaging in some explorations of the Gold region in the employ of the State — as Geologist — If he should succeed I shall have an opportunity to visit some interesting sections of country. at all events I shall not be idle. I hope to make some interesting collections in my journey up the Country next month; and I shall continue to send you my collections every favourable opportunity — I have had no opportunity to send you my plants yet, and shall now probably wait till My Envoy returns to the States. I have been so situated that I have not been able to arrange them. Hastily or safely notes. Except a few mentions of localities. I hope however to furnish them at some future time. — I am in hopes that the box you allude to as sent from New York has not arrived. and the probability now is. must be either lost or detained at Panama. so that I shall not receive it. Should it be returned to New York you can take charge of the books till they can be safely sent on until I return — I hope however we shall yet recieve them, as they would be very useful. and a microscope. I must have as soon as I can afford it —

TORREY CORRESPONDENCE
COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY

I still hope that something may turn up, more in accordance with our original plans of the Botanical exploration of this region. I shall consider it no loss to spend the coming season in the upper country but if any thing should turn up to favour our original design I am on hand. If the Commission should be hastily organized at the other end of the line. and I can rejoin them under satisfactory

circumstances I shall be ready. or if the Government expeditions should be projected in this region it is all the same. — though it is not a life that has so many intrinsic charms as to bear down all difficulties. I do not like to commence anything & half do it —

May Emory is now at Monterey, and will return by the steamer that carries this. I think he designs returning to the States in March. — The Mexican Commission also design returning soon to the city of Mexico.

The mail steamer will be down in about a week and I shall leave this open to add any thing of interest after this you may direct me at Monterey, California, where I expect to arrive the latter part of March —

with much respect

Yours, Chas. C Parry

Feb 1st The joint commissioners have had several meetings of late I understand it is agreed to adjourn the Commission to El Paso for 1st Nov I wish to delay taking my discharge as long as there is any chance of continuing with any prospect of accomplishing my objects. I presume I can accomplish all I wish in this region the coming season, and if I could take a furlough for that time and then rejoin the Commission in time to proceed to El Paso I would adopt that course, I hope before leaving here that the matter may come to a clear understanding, either by instructions from Washington or the arrival of a new Commissioner, in the mean time I feel satisfied that you will do all in your power to bring about a satisfactory arrangement being better aware than I can be of the projected movements — before I write again you will probably see Mr Emory —

TORREY CORRESPONDENT
HERBARIUM
COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY

Sand-Hill. July 8th 1851

Dr Torrey:

My Dear Sir:

Received your note of July 1st I had been absent for a few days, unexpectedly, but I hope profitably at Long Island, to stand at my sister's death-bed, and learn "how a Christian can die." — My feelings have been much distracted by this sad event, but I am getting into a business train again

I like the labels but it will perhaps be hardly worth while to send a set as I shall be down soon, and the set left at Washington will have to be over-hauled before I know just what is wanting.

I shall perhaps start for Essex Co. next week but shall have to contract my original plan, as any time seems to be getting short, and the reduction of my notes, is more of a task, than I supposed it would be.

I am anxious to know whether you have heard from Decaisne, in reference to the drawings, and that there will be no delay in getting them all completed by the time specified for the completion of my report, in Oct. next.

I have completed the copying of my N-W. Report. I have not felt in the humor of making many alterations, my attention being occupied elsewhere. I would like you to look up for me the proper authorities for Pinus Banksiana ( )?

Stilia fimbria ( )?

Lichens { Cladonia rangiferina ( )?
Gyrophora Muhlenbergii ( )?

as I have no works to refer to in which they are contained.

I sent a set of mosses &c to Sullivant while I was at Washington, and requested him to acknowledge them by a note addressed to me at Princeton. It seems that this has not been received yet. — If they did not reach him another set should be sent on.

I wrote out my notes on Cacti, and sent them to Engelmann. The 11th of this month. In the letter accompanying I stated, that you were soon to send him the collections in your possession, would it not be well to have them despatched pretty soon; if there is any difficulty about the expense incurred, I will be responsible.

I see to day a notice of Com. Bartlett's recall, if so. It must induce some changes and confusion. I hope botany will not suffer

Have you any thoughts of attending the Scientific Association at Albany in August? I shall probably run down and take a look at them.

I am likely to meet with a quite considerable pecuniary loss on a draft procured for me at San Francisco, payment on which has been refused at New York. — I do not allow such things to disturb my equanimity, but it will have an important bearing on my future plans and may be an additional inducement for me to seek employment in another expedition.

I will write you on my return from Essex Co. if not before

Most sincerely yours

J. Torrey

TORREY CORRESPONDENCE
HERBARIUM
COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY.

SAUGERTIES JUL 9 N.Y.

PAID 8¢

Prof. John Torrey, M.D.

Princeton.

New Jersey.

Davis Hill July 27th 1851

TORREY CORRESPONDENCE
HERBARIUM
COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY.

My Dear Doctor:

Returned from my short trip to Essex Co. which was necessarily too rapid to accomplish much in the botanical line. I made however a quite interesting circuit and picked up something by the way. That may not be altogether useless.

I landed at Westport, and penetrating into the mountainous region by the way of Elizabethtown and Keene, crossed at the foot of Whiteface Mt. in the N.W. corner of the Co. We made the ascent on the Eastern side, and after some scrambling & puffing, reached the summit in three hours travel. The view is less wild and rude than from Mt Marcy, but is still very commanding and grand. We were up early enough to see the fleecy clouds, lifting the mountain valleys, and resting on the embosomed lakes, and watch the process of its disappearance when the sun arose in his strength, — the extensive plain extending to the St Lawrence formed a very pretty contrast to the rugged mountain scenery; cut up by roads and fences, and spotted by frequent settlements. It

offered a very fine bird's Eye view.—

Being several hundred feet lower than Mt Marcy its exclusive alpine character was less marked, and in warm crevices many of the lowland plants had found a resting place. Thus we had to the very summit A. Canus Canadensis, Sedum Rhodiola, Rubus Chamaemorus. ~~Hosackia~~ Amelanchier Canadensis Ribes prostratum, and even in one place I noticed a Dandelion, &c.. The more exclusive Alpine plants have been mostly before reffered to this locality Arenaria Groenlandica, & Potentilla tridentata, Empetrum nigrum.; Salix Cutleri (quite abundant), Kalmia glauca Rubus Boottii Solidago Virga-aurea, a few grasses & Carices. On the ascent I procured fine flowering Specimens of Platanthera obtusa,— Did not find as I hoped Aspidium aculeatum. Of any of the above enumerated. I can furnish you good specimens for your own herbarium & distribution, & recently Gen Hall swept over the summit. has obscured most of the mosses, & Lichens. but I have selected a few of the better for Mr Tuckerman., and will bring any you may desire down with me.

I have not heard from you lately I suppose you are waiting to hear of my return. On my way back I followed down the Au Sable river. to its mouth. & thence ~~down~~ up the lake shore. to the banks of the Ausable near the forks where the branches unite, and thence down the

boundary between Essex & Clinton Co. I noticed quite an abundant growth of the Pinus Resinosa, in fact I imagine more than half the timber now on that stream, is of that character. In your State Flora, I observe you notice but one locality, for this species, in the New York -

I hope to hear from you soon, and know what progress is making with the list of Plants, Drawings &c. - Next month (Aug) I hope to do up the Geology after a fashion, and you will probably be ready for me in Sept. - I suppose Capt Hardcastle & party will be in from San Diego by the next steamer. They may bring us some additions back of Jean Ant. -

My respects to your family and Sincerly Yours

Chas L. Parry

TORREY CORRESPONDENCE
HERBARIUM
COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY.

Rec? July 8th

Monterey June 1st 1850

TORREY CORRESPONDENCE
HERBARIUM
COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY

Dr Torrey

Dear Sir

When I was hoping to hear of the safe arrival of my collection at New York - I was almost dismayed by a rumor of their probable loss in crossing the Isthmus — I have received no note from you to that effect. but Maj. Emory dropped me a line on his passage up to San Francisco. I expect to see him on his return and accompany him to morrow to San Diego. my leave of absence having expired —

I have consequently no means of judging of the truth of the rumor. and still indulge the hope that it may not be true and though delayed the collection may come safe to your hands. I suppose you received the letter sent you by Lt Whipple, and know the circumstances of their being sent. I requested him at parting as a personal favour to look to their safe transportation and he must have been aware of the importance of their speedy transmission before the coming on of the wet season — Still if the worst is true, I wish to know it as soon as possible that I may go to work to retrieve the loss. as far as can be — In future I think even at the risk of much inconvenience I had better stick to my collections. for I am satisfied there is no trusting to another person —

I know nothing about the prospects in reference to the Commission except Mr. Ellery's note informing me that funds may be expected in the Steamer of this month and it is to be hoped a forward movement may be made before long. I shall petition for premises on the Country to the Rio Grande and the intermediate Sierra I can spend near San Diego, and the mountains beyond. — I cannot foresee what circumstances I may be placed in but hope for the best. — You will have an Eye out to movements in Washington. I hope you will be able to send some papers which if I have to collect over again will be pretty scarce before I reach the Rio Grande I also wish to procure the botanical part of Wilkes's Report. Which you might lend by private hand or mail. And I feel satisfied that you will do all in your power to increase my facilities in continuing my botanical researches.

I have made but one excursion of any importance in this vicinity viz to the Mission of San Juan. towards San Jose. without any important results. I have pretty well examined this vicinity for the last few days I have been assisted by the Lord. English Collector he directed me to the locality for Pinus Edgariana (Nob) which I had failed to discover, also Pentstemon. Chrysopsis. other plants of some interest I have also added to my collection, I was disappointed in going to Santa Cruz Mr Lobb brought home a fine collection from the Sierra Nevada some of which must prove new. he does not collect generally. His specimens go to Sir Wm Hooker

A great deal is yet to be done in this region particularly on the ledges of the Sierra Nevada N & S. but the expense of travelling is an insuperable objection to a person of small means. What an interesting work a Botany of California would be! to a collector properly equipped and prepared to decide what is new. two seasons. would I think furnish pretty ample material. and you are the proper person to work them. I hope it may be done.

The gold excitement is subsiding itself. The mines are crowded. Mr Lobb informs me that men are considered fortunate to make 3 or 4 dollars a day with hard work. and at that rate many are glad to "lay down the shovel & the hoe" The cry now is for industrious men -

I enclose you a specimen of the Polygala. Northiana? found here. it is not uncommon on three ridges &c. I expect to accompany this letter as far as San Diego. but am obliged to wait it here. I have not heard from you since last Oct - Have not seen Le Conte. I hope to hear from you in full before I leave on overland journey -

With much respect
Yours truly
Chas C Parry

TORREY-TORREY CORRESPONDENCE
HERBARIUM
COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY.

Prof J Torrey
Princeton N J.

Sandy-Hill June 18th 1851

My Dear Doctor:

I received the Letter forwarded from Princeton, and thank you for attending to it. Enclosed is an Extract from Agr' E. to you about the printing of the Coast Survey Botany. What time they to print? —

I was glad to make the acquaintance of the Mss. Lady, and had a pleasant evening looking over the Norwegian plants. They will be very convenient for comparison, and though you will recognize many acquaintances, they will also suggest some novelties in your Collection.

I have ensconsed myself in a 7 by 9 domicil and am working away in earnest. Perhaps "earning my victuals" I saw Dr Emmons, at Albany, and him rather a dry stick, to get much out of. but he flatters me into the belief that I can make something out of the Geology — He will get the fossils figured for me, and the sections drawn. which will be something, I am more anxious however about getting up a neat Physical map. and hardly know how to go at it. —

I shall take my vacation in Essex Co in July visiting White face. Mt. perhaps going as far as the St Lawrence river.

you must insist on Maj Emory getting for you the "Sulphur" Botany; as looking over the manuscript in the State Library at Albany I see that they speak some considerable time in our Section, & Lower California.

I wish to be remembered to your obliging family, and remain Most Sincerely

Yours &

C. C. Parry.

TORREY CORRESPONDENCE
HERBARIUM
COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY.

Steamboat below St Louis. March 16th

[1849 #]

Dr Torrey

Dear Sir

I am improving the just leisure moment since your hasty summons to write you a line informing you of my plans in reference to the same

Your Telegraphic despatch was 18 days coming from St Louis to Davenport and your letter of 16th Feby. came the next day 7th inst. I saw at once that it would be impossible to reach NY by the time specified and on considering the whole subject concluded to attempt to intercept the Company at the Isthmus, or short of it if possible I hoped to reach a telegraphic station before the 14th but the travelling was so intolerably bad, and the wires broke at different points on the road that I was unable to send before the morning of the 15th at St Louis, I hope to receive an answer from you at New Orleans, where I expect to arrive soon after the 20th and shall be governed mainly by that in my future course I am anxious least in concluding that I should not go with them their arrangements may have been made to exclude me, but as this seems the only chance to push ahead. I shall go on till stopped by unavoidable necesity I saw a slip in a Boston paper that Lt Whipple was to go by the way of New Orleans. if that should be the case there will be no difficulty in intercepting him. - I presume the Company go out in the "Crescent City" but I cannot yet learn whether or not she touches at New Orleans. - I infer also

TORREY CORRESPONDENCE HERBARIUM COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY

that the object is to reach the Arid Steamer on the Pacific, and that will be my aim also —

I take with me only necessary articles & a few books I must depend upon getting other things from the Company I shall have barely Enough money to take me to Panama. and if the Company has left shall be in rather a "tight" place. but presume I could get a passage on the statement of my case. I think the Commissioners were to meet at San Diego. the 10th May If I can get along at all I can certainly get there & that time I case I should fail altogether I dont know what I should do. I might conclude to stay South somewhere or return to New York.

I had made conditional arrangements with nothing better offered to go overland to California, with some Emigrant parties, with Ox teams. — Though I anticipated considerable difficulty & perhaps failure from the vast number going over that route. besides it would be far less interesting than the one involved in the Boundary Survey —

I shall then do my best to get up with the Company, and if I eventually fail I must bear my disappointment as well as I can & wait for the next chance —

I had not on leaving Davenport March 9th received the letter you mention containing the names of the plants I sent you — I made out my report as complete as I could without it and sent it on to Dr Buren. As I have made allusions to you. in promising assistance, in matters of doubt I suggest if agreeable

to your wishes. That you would make out a supplement of whatever you may deem important in reference to the same and send to Dr Owen, New Harmony Posey Co Ia.

I have no sufficient experience in these matters to know whether such a course would be proper. but you. of course know.

I left my collection. unarranged and mostly unlabelled, as I was waiting for information to know whether I was to put them up in permanent form I have written to Dr Owen. if anything be done with them to be sent to you. — I have also left a sealed request in case of my death that my entire personal collections. be placed at your disposal

I shall probably soon be able to inform you more definitely of my prospects, in reaching New Orleans if your despatch does not forbid, I shall push on for Chagres. and if possible not meeting the Company shorter I shall try to get to San Diego

With much respect Your friend
Chas. C Parry

TORREY CORRESPONDENCE
HERBARIUM
COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY

Prof. John Torrey M.D.
Princeton. N.J

Rec. May 17th

Davenport. May 8th 1848

My Dear Sir.

I have delayed answering your favours some time since received, wishing to inform you definitely of the prospects of my becoming connected with the N.W. Geol. Survey. I have now the pleasure to inform you that all is satisfactorily arranged. and I am expecting our Company up daily; active preparations have been made Especially in the Botanical line to secure the greatest results; Each division of the Company is to carry a press, and the parties are to be so distributed as to cover the largest extent of ground. One main division is to ascend the Des Moines river, to its source, thence crossing over to the Missouri going as far up as the ~~mouth~~ "Great Bend" from there crossing over to head waters of the St Peters, where I expect to meet them, going with the main party directly up. We are then to follow up the St Croix to its source, crossing over to Lake Superior &c. I am anxious to be on my way to secure the earliest plants. As Mr Geyer spent the best of the season on the Missouri I hope we shall be able to make valuable additions to his list, as well as ascertaining Geographical boundaries. I should have been glad to have received some hints from you how to make the most of my time, or any points of special interest. It is my intention at present at the close of our expedition to visit the East, when our collections will be submitted to your inspection

I will endeavour to bear in mind your requests

and shall be glad of an opportunity to thank you personally for the kindness you have shown. The cordial manner in which you have met my humble efforts hitherto has given a personal character to my Esteem which however little it may concern you, is I must say very pleasing to me,

With much regard. I remain,

Your obliged friend

Chas. C Parry

HERBARIUM
COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY.

Rec'd 9 and ans'd Dec'r 1847.

Davenport. Iowa Nov 6th 1847

Dr. Torrey

Dear Sir.

TORREY CORRESPONDENCE
HERBARIUM
COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY.

I have an opportunity to send you a short account of my botanical labours in this new western field; with a few specimens enclosed. I hope to be able to present you with a more complete sketch at some future day — of the plants marked doubtful I should be glad to have your opinion, as well as any general information that may guide me in the study of plants of this region. I have felt the want of works comprising descriptions of the Orders not contained in your Flora Please inform me of any such, and whether the Flora is to be soon continued. I have been in correspondence with Dr Mead of Hancock Co Ill. who is still an active botanist. he has published a list in "The Prairie Farmer" for the year 1846. — I have some prospect of connecting myself with the "North Western Geological survey" next season as botanist, if you could assist me by a line of commendation I should be much obliged. and if I can be of any service to you in a botanical line I shall be happy to serve you. With regards to the members of your faculty, and wishes for the success of your worthy institution, I remain Dear Sir

Yours respectfully

Chas C. Parry

Dr Torrey —

TORREY CORRESPONDENCE
HERBARIUM

Recd. Dec. 23.

Eagle Pass. Texas Nov 26th 1852

Dr Torrey

My Dear Sir:

With more than usual exultation I am able to inform you of my safe arrival at this place after our long & tedious journey down the Rio Grande from Presidio Del Norte.

A kind Providence, has again given me renewed reasons for thankfulness in guiding my wayward steps in safety. through a most desolate country and given a reasonable Success to my labors

I was prepared to expect something out of the common way in this last journey. but the reality has far once surpassed the expectation. I could hardly have fancied such a peculiar condition of country as believed that our Trans acquaintance the Rio Grande could be induced to play so many singular freaks in the Mt Canons between this place & the Presidio Del Norte. Though there is in fact no such thing as a regular Cañon or perpendicular fall. yet the immense Chasms by which it hews its way. Though Mt barriers is most astonishing & includes scenery that I hardly believe the world can furnish a parallel to

The botany though not rich includes I am quite certain a fair share of fine novelties. I have been fortunate enough to bring all my collections through in excellent condition. Though at various times they have been in imminent risk, and once by the capsize of a boat, nearly all afloat, with small prospect of their recovery. They being among a very few things saved. We were compelled by the difficulties of the trip, to leave unfinished a portion of the survey extending as we since learned some 120 miles above the mouth of the Pecos river, & make the best of our way to the Mexican settlements by the interior. In the absence of guides this was in itself with our large party, a rather hazardous undertaking but we came through without any accident & I had an opportunity of seeing a very fine section of country. That otherwise would have escaped me. including a singular basin formation, and a country unequalled for picturesque scenery by any I have seen in the whole boundary line. We had no Indian difficulties. Though on beside lay on the high way of the marauding expeditions into Mexico. at one of our camps we encountered a Comanche party. of some 50 men who professed friendship & feasted us unmolested for since learned that the same party had just come from the murder of a party of Americans

on the San Antonio road. In the Sta Rosa Settlements we encountered "Wild Cat" with his Tribe of Seminoles & negros, who if our party had not been pretty strong would have given us some trouble -

But here we have come to learn for the first time the perplexed condition of the Commission. Maj Emory had left this place before my arrival again in Earnest quest of the Shifting Commissioner, who to follow out his well marked line of policy has taken a round about Route to go from El Paso. on south of Dr Wislizenus to the lower Rio Grande - impossible to know what will be the upshot of the matter. but I am satisfied that every thing will turn up right in the end. I am only concerned now to waste no more time in the field. I know nothing of the Mayos plans. but I do not see how a temporary disbandment of the Commission can be avoided. and as far as I am concerned. a matter of indifference I am only anxious about the best means of getting home with my Collections - I met them after 11 months separation my old Comrade Schott. our meeting being a pleasure that I have long anticipated ~~with pleasure~~. We find plenty to talk

AMERICAN CORRESPONDENCE
HARVARD
COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY

about in comparing notes &c of our different tracks
Schott has had a great many difficulties to contend
against & has come off most honorably, fully justifying
your good opinion of him. Dr Bigelow. the same
good natured, zealous fellow, also met me cordially,
& I am indebted to his hospitality for a place to
lay my head, & a table to write to you from.

I received your note of Aug 11th & Septr 5th — Jan 4th
being the last previous date — Was glad to learn that
the plants sent by Wright had safely reached you. You
have since them met Mr Wright in person. and derived
of course full information of botanical matters up to
his dates. I understand that Mr Mayor Emory, is not
altogether pleased with the way in which Mr Wright has
fulfilled his mission to you, but I think there can
be only some misunderstanding, which can be readily
explained, at any rate I am certain that nothing but full
& complete justice will be received from you or Dr Gray
& all botanical collectors: and I think you know that
aside from the common forms of scientific courtesy I am
indifferent to personal eclat.

I also received from Dr Englemann on my return a
letter alluding to my Californian notes. &c which I shall
answer by this same mail, he does not seem to have
known that. his answer to my notes sent from Sandy Hill
was safely in your hands.

You may expect shortly them to hear of some
definite settlement of our plans. & in all probability I
shall be soon on my way to the East

Pray present my kind regards to your family and
believe me

Most Sincerly Yours

C C Parry

TORREY BOTANICAL CLUB HERBARIUM

Camp opposite Mouth of Gila – Oct 23d 1849

Send Surg. Gen. Office

Dr Torrey

Dear Sir

I have an opportunity to write you from the mouth of the Gila. and do not wish to neglect it – in giving you a brief sketch of what has transpired since my last –

Our long talked of expedition did not finally leave San Diego till. Sep 11th we were escorted by 40 soldiers. and a train of 12 waggons – Our first Camp was at the old Mission of San Diego – whose Gardens were still interesting by a growth of fine olive trees, pomegranates, & grapes –, the latter of most superb quality – Leaving this we commenced slowly the ascent of the Cordilleras. varying somewhat from May Emory's route – following up the valley of San Diego river The mountain ridges have a very uniform Character consisting of varieties of feldspathic granite – We fell into the usual route at Santa Maria – 6 miles East of San Pasqual from thence we proceeded to San Isabel. which is a fine location. and the old Mission grounds afforded an ample supply of fruit — From San Isabel there is a route direct to San Felipe about 12 miles. but not passable for waggons. and we followed the circuitous route by Warner's – the dividing ridge lies between San Isabel & San Felipe. and in returning I mean to take the cross cut. and determine the height – There are said to be pines on the road. Elsewhere on the route they have been only visible on mountain peaks. In the valleys of the higher mountain range, several species of oak abound – The live-oak is the finest. It is I suppose Q. Kelloggiandi, from its

fruit — There are a variety of interesting shrubs. Of most of which I secured specimens — but the season was not the most favourable — I think I have got all the ferns. (6 or 7) to be found in this immediate range — a solitary moss alone graces my collection — I found near the head of San Diego river a singular silicoid, floating plant of which I enclose a specimen — Descending the mountains to the East a striking change comes over the features of the country after leaving San Felipe desert & all indents of purposes commences, — here the Sierra makes its first appearance and these desert companions — Fougeresa Spinosa is found on all gravelly ridges reaching as I am informed to the western foot of Sierra Madre — A fresh species of Philoxis different from any mentioned in Wislizenus report also occurs — and others I hope you will see in due time. After leaving Carriso Creek we came on the table land of the desert proper — There have been quite important discoveries since May Emory passed viz, several fresh water lakes at comparatively convenient distances. The first 25 miles from Carriso Creek — in then Sierra 8 ponds some 12 miles further is what is called the "new river — consisting of a chain of ponds of varying height emptying into one another by a perceptible current, setting to the west — they are evidently no novelties as their edges support a heavy growth of Mesquite and some bottom weeds — from their position they can receive only a limited drainage and must be dependent for supply on frequent showers fortunately, or rather Providentially. The last season which has seen such an unexpected rush of emigration has

been noted for abundant rain, and this has doubtless saved a great amount of suffering especialy for poor brutes. At new River the same cause has started an abundant growth of fine Grama grass on the Plain of the desert as far as I can learn a new fact - the grass is a species of Chondrosium, I think, and is probably the same as some of the Inland species in New Mexico - New River. The middle of the desert is more a refreshing place for man & beast the contrast was very pleasing, from the dull Plain of the desert to the fine green sward, which set off with the verdant hue of the Savana, in places resembled more a gentlemans pleasure ground than a dreary desert -

I was surprised to find Mountain ranges, both to the North & South the entire distance over the desert: on the south they come very near the road. so that at new river I was tempted to make an Excursion on foot. while the animals were recruiting - I found them about 9 miles distant, - They are of basalt of a dreary brown character & rise directly from the Plain of the desert destitute of all vegetation, but with at their base with a varying drift deposite — Since we have come West of the mountains, the weather has been intensely hot in crossing the desert the thermometer in the shade was frequently up to 108° F, and in the Sun where we were obliged to ride mounting up to 130° F. Such intense heat could only be borne by profuse perspiration & plenty supplies of water - the air however has a singular invigorating character & one directly from the Plain of the desert destitute of all vegetation, but with at their base with a varying drift deposite — Since we have come West of the mountains, the weather has been intensely hot in crossing the desert the thermometer in the shade was frequently up to 108° F, and in the Sun where we were obliged to ride mounting up to 130° F. Such intense heat could only be borne by profuse perspiration & plenty supplies of water - the air however has a singular invigorating character, and the depressing effect of heat is less felt - There occurs on the desert in considerable quantities

some interesting shells — which will furnish an important key to its geological formation. They are fresh water & evidently lacustrine — no shells of any kind are to be found in the bed of the Colorado or Gila, either — We reached the Colorado on 30th Sept and our present Camp Oct 2d — here we are pretty much confined to astronomical duties and the vicinity affords at this season little to interest the botanist — I wanted to inform you I have secured flowering specimens of the Prosopis, Emoryi I am sorry to put you off with such an hasty & meagre sketch but as I must speak of other things I must leave details for a better opportunity — You of course have been aware of the changes in the Commissioner & the appointment of Col Fremont — When I left San Diego the matter was only rumour, by last account it is authenticated — and by this time the new Commissioner is on the ground, necessarily changes must result — and among others Maj Emory will without doubt leave. I understand he has applied for his recall. I do not know yet how this will affect his assistants, some of them wish to leave, & the old Commission is trying to induce a general break up — I think there is little doubt that I can still retain a situation in the Commission & probably more desirable than the one I occupy — I have at least but one straightforward course before me, as long as I can satisfactorily accomplish. The Scientific objects with which I started on this expedition I shall remain, when these fail I shall look somewhere else — I am interested in this line, and all my zeal is enlisted in accomplishing a thorough botanical survey if compelled to seek another field! it will be with regret — this is all I can say till circumstances turn up — and by them I must be guided — you shall know the result — I intended in case it should seem best some time in the winter to send you my collections of this season — of which I will give you due notice. Begging you will excuse this hasty, Epistle I remain with much respect

Yours Sincerely

Chas C Parry

Mission of San Luis. Rey — Calª
Sept 30th 1850

TORREY CORRESPONDENCE
HERBARIUM
COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY.

Dr Torrey

My Dear Sir

I expect this will be handed you by Maj Emory, who expects to leave San Diego by the 6th Steamer — My new location will indicate an important change in my plans - Since writing you by the last mail - I received the offer of a temporary situation as. actg Surgeon. to the military post at this place — after a due consideration of all the circumstances - I concluded it to be my Duty to accept. and have now entered on my duties —

I have not taken this step without much anxiety as affecting my connection with the Commission but I feel satisfied if you knew all the circumstances you would approve my course — I see no possibility of any active service from this quarter. and the temporary nature of my engagement will enable me to meet any requirements that may hereafter arise — Major Emory sanctions the course I have taken and declines granting me a discharge — expecting that I shall be authorized to follow him and complete a report of operations on this side — It is desirable in any case that I should remain in this region for another winter to secure the recollection of the interesting winter plants included in Lt Whipples loss —

I am in hopes the present locality may also afford some novelties — as there is quite a variety. of Soil & scenery

in this vicinity — which in many respects is superior to any part of Southern California —

I have packed for Maj Emory a duplicate set of my collections the past season — including several cases of seeds, fruits, and Cacti Specimens — which Maj E. will deliver to you at New York — I have sent A hasty a notice of localities — my other notes being scattering, and no time for copying & collating as I expect to have plenty of leisure this winter I am reserving this task for a more favorable opportunity — I have also retained all my geological specimens — In looking over the collection. Should you notice anything of special interest I should like to see it brought out as soon as possible — and anything that is deficient I may be able to supply — I was very desirous to secure seedling specimens of the Fan leaved pine. but all brought me were roasted; (of which I send you a specimen —) Should I return early next Spring I hope to bring a more extensive collection of seeds. for cultivation —

Maj Emory will inform you of all the movements of interest in this quarter — and I need not prolong this sheet our last mail from the States past by without leaving the mail, and we are now obliged to wait for the downward steamer before getting our letters. — It may be advisable that may detain the Major and prevent his leaving in the Steamer — I have therefore enclosed this note to him requesting him to hand to you in person; or enclose it by mail in case he should be detained

Wishing you both a pleasant meeting Again

Sign myself in haste

Very Respectfully Yours
C C Parry—

Professor Torrey

Dear Sir

May I convey I staying at the Pacific Hotel (I believe that is the place at any rate it is the Hotel immediately above the Astor House on Broadway) He is very anxious to see you as he has some plants for you he wished to see you today but I find you are not in town please to call upon him as soon as possible & leave word when you can call In haste yours much respect Yours

John Parry

N.Y. Nov. 9th 1850

Prof. John Torrey M.D

No 67. Crosby Street

New York city

U.S.

New York. April 12th 1851

TORREY CORRESPONDENCE

Dr Torrey

My Dear Sir

I have the pleasure to inform you of my safe arrival at this place with a considerable addition to my previous collections, (in good condition)

I go up the river to night to pay a hasty visit to my friends and shall return to town on Wednesday or Thursday morning on my way to Washington - should I not meet you in town I shall make it a point to call on you at your residence on my way to Washington -

Having been delayed on the Isthmus a few days longer than expected. I have improved the opportunity to make a neat little collection of Isthmus ferns which I am sure will please you very much -

I am in good health, but somewhat fatigued by my journey

Respectfully & truly Yours

C C Parry

CORRESPONDENCE HERBARIUM COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY

Rec'd June 5th
Ans. " " "

El Paso. Texas. April 18th 1852

SMITHSONIAN CORRESPONDENCE
IN EXCHANGE FOR
COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY

Dr Torrey

My Dear Sir:

I use the first opportunity to inform you of my safe return from our expedition of 3 months to the Pimo Village, on the Gila. of the commencement of which, my last letter informed you.

Two days from our start. Maj E. was obliged to turn back by news from a Government Express — this led to a division of our party. the advance being reduced to a force of 15 men. — By orders from the Major in reaching the first frontier town. we left our wagons & proceeded with packs. a more expeditious mode of travelling but not so convenient for the Naturalist. Our route led through a dangerous Indian country, and we had to keep us a strict guard especially at night. in which the whole party took turns, we were without even tents for shelter, and consequently had a good opportunity, for studying Natural Meteorology. — Still the trip, with all its hardships, was a pleasant one, leading us through a most interesting region. — My first plant a Species of Ribes, was collected Feb 17th, and from that on nearly every day added to the stock — It will of course be impossible to go into any detail, My Collection embraces some 200 Species. Many of these occur over a wide range. I found several California acquaintance.; and Still more to my surprise some N Western acquaintances: as Androsace. occidentalis?

Batschia longeflora — On the summit of the Sierra Madre I met with Claytonia Virginica?

My best harvest however was gathered in the vicinity of the Gila, & the neighborhood of Tucson, in fact the entire Jornada, between the two places, refreshed & recent rains, was a continuous bed of flowers. The valley of the Gila was also in the glory of a forward spring, and if I had had more time, to march about, (as we only had one day at the Village,) I might have accomplished still more, Among other things that may interest you I found fine flowering specimens of what I suppose to be your New Genus, Hymenoclea. Euroys Ryder. — Other interesting plants include. Cruciferae. Onagraceae. Compositeae &c, which you will see in due time I hope, On our return the season being more advanced, the same route furnished a fair collection of the Spring flora of this region, of which Mr Wrights magnificent collection of last summer, will complete a fair view of the vegetation of this region. — A larger portion of the country traversed was capable of cultivation, than I supposed, & the grazing capabilities almost unequaled, The country about the San Pedro valley, is particularly desirable, in this particular, officially testified by the abundance of deserted ranches, scattered for a long distance, up & down, at intervals of a few miles — It is now the pasturage ground of wild cattle, & horses, which furnish the roving Apaches, with an important means of subsistence.

We returned home, to El Paso, on the 11th inst.— Much to the relief of our friends, who had been alarmed by a current report that we had been cut off by the Indians.— The report even went so far as to specify that a careless individual who left the team in quest of weeds was the cause of involving the party in the combat which resulted in our defeat, & slaughter.

The facts of the matter is, We only met with a small party of hostile Indians, who did not dare to try the capacity of our guns, and when we showed signs of giving battle in earnest, galloped off, & we saw them no more— Depredations however occured frequently both just before, & behind us, in one case a party of 8, were murdered the day after passing the same track— We were favored to escape without serious loss, or accident., and are now trying to get used to the akward processes, of sitting on chairs, & sleeping in houses, with roofs

SURVEY CORRESPONDENCE
NEBRASKA
COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY

I found Mr Wright, & Sargeant, hard at work in gathering up the plants, of this locality, some of which are very interesting, Wright's list includes already 150 species— I have now to speak of a matter that is soon likely to affect my future movements materially.

My Enemy is anxious that I should return home, to the states, to attend to office work & the preparation of our Report. as there is no prospect of any more explorations, to separate our now small party in different localities

He thinks, & I agree with him, that Mr Wright & Bigelow can do all the collecting, and that it is his intention to follow out the policy of despatching from time to time, duplicate specimens of collections, to be worked up as fast as received. — My only objection to going home so soon, is the appearance of deserting the field, while the harvest is just coming on — Under the circumstances however of our being a single party, to go down the Rio Grande, and a sincere wish to give Wright every chance to complete the botany of the region in which he has so justly distinguished himself. — I think that in this I shall not be doing injustice to you, as you know very well that all the specimens collected, while Mr Emory is in charge will come first to your hands.

My sudden coming out here, did not give me opportunity to make the preparations, I would wish for a long campaign. So I have acceded to the Major's wish & shall hold myself in readiness to embrace, the first good opportunity, of returning, with all the collections, I can take with me among us. About my return route, I am still unsettled, wishing to make the most of my route I hardly know wether to choose the Texican, or Santa Fe, route. Though probably in order to cover a larger region of observation, I shall select the latter. In the mean time, & till starting, I shall busy myself in filling up my collections, with every thing, I can get in the vicinity This delay may be longer than now expected, & till the time comes, I shall go on as if I was to spend the entire season,

SMITHSONIAN CORRESPONDENCE
HERBARIUM

5th

I enclose fragments of some small specimens that may interest you. Eryngieae: an beginning to make them appearance & will be largely collected — I had an opportunity to see fine specimens of the Cereus Giganteus, of which I have drawn out a detailed description for Dr Engelmann. unfortunately it was too early for flower, or fruit — its anatomical structure is very peculiar.

In reference to the distribution of the California plants I wish to leave it entirely at your discretion — when the specimens are sufficiently numerous I see no objection to their immediate distribution. —

You must not consider my return as anything certain as it depends on many contingencies

My kind remembrance to your family. You may assure the ladies that I shall be satisfied to bring one skull home safe from them

Respectfully & truly Yours

J. C. Parry.

TORREY CORRESPONDENCE
HERBARIUM
COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY.

P.S Mr Wright writes to Dr Gray by this mail. Dr Bigelow to yourself — They are now both absent on an expedition to Lake Guzman —

Transeamus Britannia
Nemacladus n. sp.
Eriobotrya - n sp. sent before by Wright

Rec'd June 1872

Ansd. June 11th

Monterey. California April 26. 1850

Dr. Torrey

My Dear Sir

NEW YORK BOTANICAL GARDEN LIBRARY COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY

I have an opportunity to write you from this point. having accomplished my contemplated journey up the Coast. We were just 4 weeks on the road. the distance being about 500 miles I had an opportunity to collect quite largely of plants on the way of which there was an interesting variety. The first part of our journey was made somewhat disagreeable by rains. the swollen streams frequently obliging us to swim. with the additional risk of getting mired in the quicksand — but before reaching Los Angeles. the weather cleared up & was uninterruptedly fine the remainder of the journey

It was certainly just the time to see California to the best advantage the bare hill sides. were clothed with a rich green and spotted with flowers of every hue. while the plains & valleys were decked with the most luxuriant pasturage I ever beheld the Erodium.- covered extensive fields.- nearly as common was a species of Medicago. and with these was mixed in quite a variety of Clovers — the wild oats were just heading out. are they not the same species with our cultivated? — Wild mustard was also common — I found the Dendromecon for the first. within a days ride of San Diego. but did not see it again till near this vicinity.— I found some of Nuttall's plants in the vicinity of Santa Barbara. but did not have an opportunity to ascend the mountains in rear of the town. I collected in flower fine specimens of Cercocarpus. betuloides (Nutt). which however I think only a lowland variety. of C Parvifolius — The Nuttallia.- was found near San Luis Obispo. and in this vicinity it is quite common

There was not much variety in trees.— a deciduous leaved oak a species of Walnut (Juglans). in addition to those found before

Pine makes its appearance above San Luis Obispo. a species with very large cones. another species of pine is common about here. ..

In this interesting locality I am making additions daily. Though there is not much chance of making discoveries. on such well explored ground. I am taking more than usual pains with my collections. which will be interesting in the way of comparison —

The expenses of travelling in this country, will limit my observations more than I expected, I hope however to make a trip before leaving to the mountains of Santa Cruz. on which Douglass made some fine discoveries — There has been here lately a collector in the employ of the London Horticultural Society, Mr Lobb. he is now absent on a trip to the Sierra Nevada but I expect will return before I leave — he has been in the employ of the Society some 11 years. mostly in the N. W. American Coast I hope to induce a gentleman settled here. a physician to make a complete collection of the plants of this locality. he has commenced a collection, and takes quite an interest in the subject — I shall suggest to him to send his plants to you. and hope it will be a mutual advantage — The gentlemans name is Dr Andrews.

This vicinity is the pleasantest I have yet seen in California though there is not much cultivable ground in the neighborhood. the convenience of the harbor and abundance of pine timber, give it an advantage, it is only 120 miles to the Mariposa mines and the journey can be made with packs in 4 to 8 days —

My leave of absence will expire the 1st May — and I shall then return to San Diego. unless otherwise advised — I have heard nothing from there. but from the tenor of news from the States I judge that something will be soon done to render my course in relation to the Commission plain. — I should think however that the Major's idea of returning to the States would

hardly meet the views of Mr Ewing – Should we be ordered over land to the Rio Grande. I shall not be much disappointed especially if I can there secure facilities for continuing my Collections. Should it be found advisable or necessary to leave the Commission I shall return again to this point and engage in some business that will give me an opportunity to examine the country as far as practicable – and probably in the winter pay a visit to some of the Pacific Islands

I have no letter from you since the one dated Oct. but I hope to hear soon. and shall be much influenced by your advice on the subject

Yours with much respect

Chas C Parry.

CORRESPONDENCE
OF ASA GRAY
COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY.

April 29th I hear that Dr Le Conte is at San Jose. near here. hope to see him before leaving I inclose. 2 plants. one a Viola found about here. not described in your flora another filicoid aquatic. found in a rocky brook near San Luis Obispo

I do not succeed in finding the Viola Chrysantha. Collected there. by Douglas Hope you will receive my Collection sent by Lt Whipple. in time to acknowledge its receipt by the April Mail. I feel anxious least they should be injured by wet. as I had not the means of securing them as well as I wished. –

(over)

Lemnea variegata Hook –

Viola pedunculata? –

10

Prof. John Torrey. M.D.

Princeton. New Jersey

U.S.

Ans? Nov. 8th

— and Sent by Capt. Pope.

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE
HERBARIUM
OF HARVARD UNIVERSITY

Camp near Presidio del Norte
August 7th 1852

My dear Doctor;

An Express mail leaves in a few days for Interesting. The mail from El Paso to San Antonio. and I suppose Dr D. informed you of our Plans touching our future movements in my letter of last month. I expected to return with Maj Emory to Texas. but have since determined on joining the surveying party that follows down the river from this place. Indian. The difficulties of this pass are greatly exaggerated. we shall have a rough time of it. & may be delayed several months. I am accordingly making my arrangements. leaving the greater part of my baggage — & collections, to go round with the train to Santa Fe. — & taking with me only necessary articles. I shall have to be rather chary in my botanical collections. but shall try & let nothing of particular interest escape me — I anticipate some interesting

geological developments in the river Cañon through which we pass. - Another inducement for my going is the probability of our meeting Schott & his party who are ordered to work up & meet us above the mouth of the Pecos, — We are provided with two serviceable India rubber boats. Easy of transportation & a great help to us in making the necessary portages -

Dr Bigelow has lately arrived here from the road, is as zealous as ever in collecting. intends annexing you by this opportunity. Maj Emory has almost finished his observations here, & is thinking of leaving soon for Zuma, & Eagle Pass. Mr Salazar the Mexican Commissioner is also here. and we are driving business ahead about as fast as such things generally can be made to go - We have little expectation of seeing our Magnanimous Commissioner, at least till we get near the Rio Grande mouth

The locality is very dry in plants, & Dr Bigelow is looking out for some Oak

Excursions - He sent me a few days with a few specimens of what we take to be Yucca Treculeana. He will probably enclose you a specimen. I am glad to hear that you are enquiring about the Mycetagia & we hope to give you some supplies in that family. Before this reaches you we hope Mr Pringle will have despatched us upon you with his troops, and I am half afraid that even then I can see but few of my own collections though we hope to bring you a fair supplement On reaching Eagle Pass, the lateness of the season, and the well known character of the country will upon Mr P. induce me to go for any remaining longer than to go rapidly down the River, to its mouth, & hence I shall probably be ordered home with the finds of our collections. I hope Sch'D will be allowed to accompany me - I hope to hear from you on reaching Eagle Pass in November next

Very Respectfully Yours
C C Parry

DAILEY CORRESPONDENCE
HERBARIUM
COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY

San Diego. Calª Aug 26th 1850

COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY.

Dr Torrey

My Dear Sir

I received your letter of June 28th by the last mail - your previous favor of the same month I acknowledged in my last. — I thank you for your kind attention to my interests. expressed in your note. which I hope I have learned to appreciate —

I showed your letter to Major Emory who was not very well pleased with the tone conveyed in Mr Bartlett's letter to you — as he thought it implied a reflection on himself — It seems certainly strange that after receiving orders from the Secretary of the Interior to reorganize the Commission. his appointments should be repudiated. In letters acknowledged by the department as early as April 10th my name & duties are mentioned & notice of my appointment as Botanist & Geologist is distinctly made in a subsequent letter of April. which must have reached the Department prior to Mr Bartletts confirmation.

But I myself feel little interest in these political features of the case — my course has been, & will be, to sustain as far as I can the scientific interests committed to me & leave political management to others.

Major Emory is much disappointed that the promise of funds to be sent out has not been complied with — he alludes to it frequently but I cannot think that an official promise like that conveyed in the Secretarys letter of April 10th "Funds will be sent you by the next departure from New York" — could be thus openly violated. Still dispatches have been since received including one up to June 20th which do not so much as allude to the subject — and we are still in the same situation we have been for months — without a cent of money. and dependent

on the Army for what to eat — Major Emory is even unable to raise money enough to take him home — and most of the employees have been compelled to resign on pain pay — As far as I am concerned as I believe I told you before I have not yet received one months pay for my services, and all my expeditions have necessarily been carried on at my own Expense — Still I do not wish to complain, for it has at least taught me economy, and I have not yet had to suffer for want of "food to eat or raiment (such as it is) to put on —

Major Emory at present expects to return to Washington in his Oct Steamer. He has given me the option to return with him or wait what may turn up. — However desirable it would be to leave this country in my present position — I have not hesitated to chose the latter as it will involve the possibility of going to the Colorado to recover some of the plants which were included in Whipples unfortunate loss — Should this be the case I shall send Major Emory a set of duplicate specimens & keep the remainder to share my own fate

I have seen lately a list of the new appointees under the Bartlett they certainly muster a strong force as to numbers, and it will need a big appropriation to keep them in provision, the number of representatives from the District of Columbia, smacks strongly of the political agency at work — a little influence of this country, and the difficulties of transportation, & subsistence, would give preference to a small & efficient force in place of a pack of Washington boys — I do not see Mr Thurbers name in the list — Still I hope that something may be done and I am willing to bear a hand in it, or forbear. I look on — The probable changes in the Cabinet consequent on Genl Taylors death must doubtless have an influence, and it is to be hoped a favorable on Major Emory in his despatches to the department. This month alludes to Mr Bartletts letter to you — I don't know whether that is exactly right —

But to speak of other things — The surveying party in the field have made considerable progress. in running the line over the mountain range — and are now not far from the divide. which is much the nearest to its Eastern base. and overlooks the desert — I imagine the line will strike well to the South of the desert. and be included in an irregular mountain range running nearly E & W which bounds the desert on the South —

We hear frequently now from the Colorado. the emigrations having commenced to come in — the river has fallen 8 ft the last month — "new river" is also down — and. fine grass is already springing up and fit for recruiting animals. — this is all within the last month — I am satisfied we have all information I have been able to gain that. "New river" first appearance at least is connected with the Colorado — seeing it only in its low stage last season I was inclined to a contrary opinion — but now I am decidedly convinced of its connection — From an eye witness who happened to cross the desert at its first appearance — says "he met. a large body of water moving about 1 mile the hour passing towards the mountains to the west —" arriving at the Colorado he found it very high — and overflowing its banks at various points owing to the easily washed nature of the soil sloughs are easily formed. A comparison of Barometrical levelings made by myself shows that the bed of "New river" is below the ordinary water level at mouth of Gila — Its connection with the Colorado must be very tortuous and include a length of near, 100 miles — There is some excitement trying to be got up about the navigation of the Colorado. & a small vessel has lately been sent round to the mouth to test its navigability. I doubt whether much will even be accomplished in that way except by light draft steamers — Col Carasco of the Mexican Commission who

TORREY CORRESPONDENCE
HERBARIUM
COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY

floated down. from the mouth of the Gila to the head of the gulf last Dec - describes it as unfit for navigation - says its course is very tortuous, and frequently turned in by cañons. - he estimates the distance by water from the junction of the Gila to the mouth of the Colorado at 200 miles - the meeting of tide & river waters the latter charged with sediment makes dangerous shoals. The water at high tide spreading over a large track of mud which reveals itself when the tide ebbs - If you have seen Lt Hardy's account of his voyage in 1828 to the mouth of the Colorado you will see a correspondence in them statements - but Lt Hardy - somehow strangely mistook a slough of the same name for the mouth of the Gila - and has put it so in his map - which has generally been followed, whereas he probably never reached within 100 miles of its mouth at nearest — There is a new city now laid out on the site of our observatory encampment called "Gila City -" But I fear I may weary you with a detail of matters in which you are not interested — The fact is Bvt Maj offers nothing at present and I have been confined to the Seorbutic table for the last month -

To conclude them with other town excitements I have to record a small shock of an earthquake felt on the morning of the 12th inst - It was sufficiently evident to make the adobe house in which I was sitting creak and rattle down the mud plaster from the roof. It continued near half a minute its course seemed to be from W to E. - Connected with the same subject is the rumor of an active volcano somewhere on the Eastern edge of the desert - It is an Indian rumor & of them will doubtless be heard from again in a more authentic shape — Our mail does not close till the 3d prox and I shall leave this open in case of further news — my next may be conveyed to you by Maj. E - in the mean time I am

With much respect
Sincerly yours
Chas C Parry -

TORREY CORRESPONDENCE
HERBARIUM
COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY.

Camp 10 miles above El Paso Dec 4th 51

TORREY CORRESPONDENCE
HERBARIUM
COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY.

My Dear Dr

Our mail by the way of San Antonio leaves in a few days, and we have the first opportunity to inform our friends of our safe arrival. having reached El Paso on 25th ult. having been just 6 weeks on road from San Antonio.

We are now encamped on the Rio Grande (East bank) in a cotton wood & willow thicket, where we amuse ourselves in digesting beans & bacon and hoping for better times.

The Majr still occupies quarters at Coons hacienda opposite El Paso. In a few days he expects to assume command and Col Graham takes his departure for Washington -

The affairs of the Commission, as you may learn better from there quarters are in the most deplorable plight. Mr Bartlett with most of the party have departed to parts unknown (i.e.) California, leaving the ballance of the party without funds, or work, or anything else, except provision to await the action of the Department of the Interior. Nothing short of a reorganization of the Commission will be necessary to recommence & accomplish the work

My Envoys orders are after relieving Col Graham to join the Commissioners, this in the present circumstances will involve a Chain across the country. which the inclemency of the season & want of a proper outfit must at least delay for several months, May I talks of organizing a small party and start in pursuit as far as the Pimos village on the Gila. should this be carried into effect I am selected as one of the party, Mr Schott stays behind.

It is however impossible to say what will be done, and we must manage to live through the winter as we best can

I have requested permission of May Envoy to put up a small parcel of the plants & seeds collected en route to be sent to you at New York we hope to get them despatched by the return Train of Col Graham. The box will be directed to the Care of E & G W Blunt and marked (Plants & Seeds) We hope you will receive it by the latter part of the winter and in this expectation need not go into any detail of our observations. I have been able to do more than I expected in collections, at so advanced season & think you will find some nice things. Mr Schott has collected also en the road, and I have looked over his collections & selected my duplicates accordingly, the greater part are still with me. and will be kept till I hear from you of the safe arrival of the Plants

Thurber is gone with Bartlett over in the Sierra and as Report says to San Diego. It looks very much as though there was book making connivance in the wind. as Mr Bartlett has attached to himself a scientific party & is determined to cover the whole line. Thurber & Mink is concerned in this plan. which is an ingenious one & Mink should be pushated as far as possible. Wright is here with Col Graham and now absent on a surveying party up the river. I think his claims as the pioneer in this district are paramount. and hope that the collections sent to Dr Gray will be studied out & published as soon as possible so as to secure the priority. Dr Bigelow is also here & I have not seen him yet.

You will find a very good general account of our route in Pub Doc. entitled "Reconnaissance in Texas & New Mexico." including Lt Simpsons report - The map accompanying shows our track being the one surveyed by Capt French &c We passed over at least 4 distinct volcanic districts. the 1st including the head waters of the San Antonio & Nueces Rivers. 2d The table land & singular valley of Devils River. 3d The Pecos & its Eastern & western tributaries, the latter reaching to a dividing ridge attaining a height of 7 to 8000 ft above the sea And 4th

The Rio Grande valley ——

The prevailing geological formation is lime stone forming table land several thousand feet above the sea. The Carboniferous formation said to be represented but I think it is too recent. when we first strike the Rio Grande. Silurian Rocks. highly metamorphic & dipping west are met with. The Divide between the Pecos & Rio Grande is a mountainous region. In one locality on this Divide I met with the Pinus Edulis of Engl— very near but distinct from any Californian pine.— The Juglans Wheelleana was constantly met with in the pebbly beds of all streams from Devils River to the most western tributary of the Pecos. It frequently attains a size of 12 inch Diameter & 25 ft high but more often was only a small bush growing in clumps & bearing fruit abundantly. Some of the Specimens sent you I hope will be able to form into cultivation.

The Ungnadia or "Texas Buck Eye" is constantly found from San Antonio to the Rio Grande and reaches even the highest elevations in the Limpia valley I therefore conclude that it will be sufficiently hardy for Cultivation in the Northern Atlantic States

We hope to hear from you by the mail due on 10th inst. there is now a bimonthly mail running from San Antonio. leaving 1st Jany next Vc. This will be the most rapid Atmospheric route. I have got to the end of my paper & must close, wishing to be remembered to your family

Most Respectfully Yours

Chas. C Parry

(P.S.) Dec 8th We are now expecting our mail via Santa Fe. which continues on to San Antonio. I have seen Dr Bigelows & looked over some of his collections. which include some nice things. but rather rough-ish up. there are 3 Junies all I think included in Wrightiana also one Abies. near to A Douglasii I noticed also a new American from the Copper mines & several nice ferns. I have there got an inkling of what I may expect next year. I was surprised to notice in the Collections. the Eschscholtzia Californica. also a Californian Calochortus. The Collections of Wright & Thurber are very extensive & complete and as they will no doubt eventually get into your hands I think the B.Army of Bdy Surveys will come out at the top of the heap. Maj Emory has just assumed the command and has in view important changes among others Schott is to go back to Eagle Pass West of San Antonio & survey the Rio down

this will give him a distinct field for observing but I should be sorry to loose his enthusiasm and sketching powers — May Emory decides on starting for the Pass. Colleges unless circumstances prevent should one do so. I shall write word by the next mail which leaves 20th inst by Santa Fe. If Schott leaves he will start about a week after the mail. I have access to Wrights books including the Flora and some Monograph lists. so that perhaps I will not be worth while to send my copy. I wish however if you have spare time you could send next spring through the Bland some pressing paper of which I have only a scant supply — Wright says the Sagittaria Whitfieldii is a described species in Tenday's some where else.
I enclose specimen of (Neuroctyla from Comanche Springs)

The Box sent will go with Col Graham & be C C Parry.
Directed to you to the care of E. F. Gen Blunt. Several packages go by this train to Dr Gray. which you will have an opportunity of inspecting you can from that write me Direction that may guide me in my collections to the best advantage

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TOWNLEY CORRESPONDENCE
HERBARIUM
COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY.

Camp on Rio Grande above El. Paso
January 14th 1852

My Dear Doctor

Though Boreing is rather dry on A here
at present we think it worth while to let you know
that the Botanists are still alive, and they as
well as their Companions the Mules, are hoping for
fresher times ere long. The only green thing I have
noticed lately is the gum drying hard to spread
on the floor of my tent. Still we have no
reason to complain of the weather, which for the
last month has been almost uninterrupted fine
the days are even occasionally sultry, but during the
long nights, the radiation into the clear Atmosphere
brings down the temperature, to a good freezing point,
and ice not unfrequently forms one or two inches.
For the last two days we have encountered the
severest weather of the season. the Thermometer standing
on the morning of the 13th inst at 16° F

I have busied myself since Friend Schotts departure
in various minor excursions in the vicinity mainly
with a view to get an inkling of the Geology of the
District - which proves to be exceedingly interesting
We have in a small space quite a variety of
formations. including granite. trachytic porphyry.

Jan 22d We have just come back from three days tour, and from the Gila. Most of the Gila Party & Staff are with us. We have just been down the Gila, and were taken sick, from the effects of the Dead Sea Apples we found in a state of fermentation. Some of the animals died in consequence. Gen Conde & Staff are with us. We have just come back from the Gila, and were taken sick, from the effects of the Dead Sea Apples we found in a state of fermentation. Some of the animals died in consequence. Gen Conde & Staff are with us.

Silurian, & Devonian Strata. The latter covers much the largest space forming Desert flanks on all the mountain bases - forming the table land to the alluvial river bottoms - and consisting the "very" "jornadas" over which the traveller is compelled to pass in going from one point to another.

In one of my trips I ascended the highest point of a considerable Mountain Range East of our Camp. It was a height of something near 2000 ft. above the River, and commands a most extended prospect the wide Desert plain extending like the sea in which it was deposited to the confines of the Mountain ranges, which now serve as a shore

I have little doubt but the Argentiferous formations occurs in this vicinity in connection with the Porphyritic ranges which are frequently connected indirectly with the inclined Silurian Strata

On our return Westward, I hope to visit some of the mining locations, & thus get a means of comparison for other Districts.

It seems as if I was fated to have the subject of Geology thrust on me wherever I go, and in the end I presume I shall have no reason to regret, though it seems irksome at times. It has at least had the good effect of inducing me to read, & reflect, on the subject more than I otherwise would, and I find that my interest increases, as my confidence grows stronger. My Enemy is quite solicitous that I should make that my main object, and perhaps it will be quite as well to make a show at least. That they may

not think in Washington that with so many Botanists, we are running the thing into the ground.

Our long talked of Expedition to the Gila is now supposed to start on 20th inst, I do not think the Maj' expects to make a very advantageous affair of it, and it depends on so many contingencies, that it is hard to foresee the final result. I hope at least to be able to enter on a fresh field and am particularly desirous to secure the Early Flora on our return.

Dennis Scholl's Company, very much and sun absent out of patience, that he could not have been retained in these more interesting parts. I think also he is not well contented with his appointed situation.

Should you get hold of Bigelow's Plants in good season you will probably have the Botany work fairly well under weigh before our return. The only thing that I can't understand, is how your labors, which are so essentially important, and involve so much time, should go unremunerated. — There seems to be a manifest injustice in N. to which some do not like to be a party. What can be done in the case?

In the Plan of Operations for the coming season I do not see any signs of prolonging the work, more than one year, and I am pleasing myself with the idea of spending the next winter with you in New York, in making up my reports. We must try hard to secure at least two new genera. The Emoryia, and Salazaria. The latter out of compliment to the Mexican Astronomer who is quite a clever

HERBARIUM CORRESPONDENCE UNIVERSITY

and amiable fellow.

We get no news of any kind here except in letters, as newspapers are too bulky, & naturally get lost on the way —

By my first letters from home I am informed of the recovery of the Sum supposed to be lost, on my San Francisco Bill of Exchange, the House in San Francisco being in good Standing & redeemed their paper without Suit. — Connected with this matter I may mention now the strong probability I am visiting Europe, when this B[illegible] job is completed, a Design which I have long cherished, but have never before seen the way clear to indulging my wishes. I shall at least have an eye to this in my collections, and I am sure that you will extend me every facility in your power to make my visit profitable.

I don't know whether you know that I am in fact a native of England, and consequently possess a goodly number of relatives on the other side of the water who will serve to render my visit the more gratifying. I mention the matter now in hopes that I may be in my way to be of some service to you in this, design of mine, but the matter will better be a subject of conversation hereafter —

With many kind remembrances to your family

I am with much respect

Yours Sincerely

Chas. C Parry

Davenport Jan. 30th 1849

Dr Torrey

Dear Sir

TORREY CORRESPONDENCE
HERBARIUM
COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY.

I am beginning to fear from not hearing from you, that the parcel of plants I sent last November has miscarried in its destination. I hope it may not be so, and that they may come safe to hand.

I have sent on to Dr Owen the first sheets of my report, reserving the rest, to modify according to the information I desired from you, unless this should arrive soon. I shall have to send them in their imperfect state, and your letter to come in as a supplement. —

Since writing you I have had a visit to our Illinois Botanist, Dr Mead, whom I found quite an enthusiastic old man, his collection is quite extensive, and his information on the plants of his region, very complete —

He informs me that you have named a species of Asclepias, after him. I have frequently met with the same hereabouts, and it is the A. periplocefolia? of my list —

I find on farther examination of some of my plants that they are more interesting than I supposed. Thus Dr. Torrey thumbifolia, Petalostemon. villosum, &c. I have also corrected some mistakes into which I had fallen. — I cannot pretend to determine the Carices, &c — and know not whether they are of any special interest. — I have applied for authority to put up the government collection in permanent form. but have no instructions to that effect. — when it is done they will be comparatively valueless. and I shall be in favour of placing

them at your disposal. —

I am now particularly interested in watching the California excitement. — to see how it may affect scientific interests in that quarter — As there will be undoubtedly scientific Corps sent out next season. I hope Botany may claim her share. — Unless some government situation should offer by that time, I shall in all probability join an Emigrant party in the Spring, and make collections as far as can be done with such limited means. — If I could secure a government situation I should embark in the cause with a good deal of zeal and with more hopes of accomplishing something for the science of Botany. — I am not much of a hand at seeking for such appointments, but I think by your influence, and some this that I have secured, my chances are good. —

As I expect to go at all events, I would be pleased if you could furnish me any information, that might be of assistance, to make the most of my opportunities, also any points of special interest to you, — any published lists, or descriptions, that might be useful. &c. —

Dr Mead informs me that Dr E James, who accompanied one of the Eastern western Expeditions is living in this State at Burlington,

I am glad to hear of the continued prospects of your institution, as I occasionally meet a member from there. There is a medical institution started in this vicinity Ft Chemical, Prof. Exploded a few gases, and then went off himself — the West is a great field for scientific schemes. —

I have just got hold of Emory's report which is quite interesting at this time - Emigrant parties are forming in every town & village about here for the "Gold regions" and I expect there will be a singular time. They generally design going with waggons & ox teams, by the regular Northern route. — I suppose that route has been pretty well scoured for plants, but I should probably have a better opportunity for taking pains, in the collection, and by a proper selection, could make an interesting assortment. for private collections.

We should start from here I suppose early in April which is now close at hand, and as I should be glad to hear from you before then, I drop you this line, to notify you of my plans —

respectfully Yours

Chas C. Parry.

Prof. John Torrey, M.D.

TORREY CORRESPONDENCE
HERBARIUM
COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY.

institution,

There is a medical institution in Cleveland, Ohio, Edited by the University Faculty - The West Reserve.



PAID

Prof. John. Lowrey — M D —
No 67. Crosby St —
New. York City

Rec'd Sept. 15th 1849.

"Camp Riley" near San Diego July 26th 1849

Dr Torrey

Dear Sir — I have at last the pleasure of directing you a letter, from this long-sought point, all well. I arrived on the 13th inst. after a voyage of 20 days from Panama.

I had written to you from that place 28th May, informing you of my detention, which continued till 24th June. The latter part, was particularly unpleasant owing to the prevailing unhealthiness of the place, of which you no doubt heard Exagerattic accounts, I was favoured to escape any serious disorder, though we all suffered more or less.

Our Voyage, on the whole was pleasant. the ship not being so crowded as formerly, and the satisfaction of knowing that we were escaping to a more genial climate, gave new zest to our spirits — We however lost 7 men on the voyage, mostly cases of fever, resulting from exposure in crossing the Isthmus.—

I am now up to my usual health. under the bracing air of California, the climate is all that could be desired. thermometer varying between 65° & 80°— and agreeably tempered with Sea breezes our Camp is at the southern point of the bay, marked on May Emory's maps. as "the Punta." At this point the principal Astronomical observations are to be made, and referred

It is now the middle of the dry season, The ground is every where parched, & the streams dried up.— the surface of the country is rolling, & treeless, the swells gradually enlarging to moderately high mountains, in the distance— The vegetation is consequently not much varied, with the exception of saline depressions, a very small circuit, would probably embrace all. characteristic plants, of these the most common are various species of Artemesia. Tourneis. arborea. Nemtzonia. fasciculata.

HERBARIUM COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY.

Caly cadenia, Senella &c— I have noticed about here 5 species of the Cactus family, and a species of Ice plant Mesembrianthemum is particularly abundant covering the ground in extensive patches and so thickly beset with watery glands as to make the foot stinging wet in walking over it.— I shall send you some seeds. One of my most interesting plants is of the Iris family.— when I first saw it I thought it certainly I had got hold of Nuttall's Dendromecon. But I do not find it described in your flora. It is 3 sepaled. 6 petaled, and the flowers 3 inches or more in diameter white.— sufficient to I shall secure seeds of this as well as every other interesting plant, and hope you will be able to produce some of them on New Jersey soil.— In reference to plants generaly. I propose to take notes particularly of evanescent Characters & habit, and when possible collect the different states of flower & fruit.—

On reaching San Diego. the May' placed in my hands your bundle of notes. I was gratified to have so full an explanation of your silence, and am sorry you should have felt any anxiety on my account.— I have received too many evidences of your kindness ever to doubt for an instant your good will to me, and be assured Sir. that you cannot do me a greater favour than by giving me opportunities to oblige you.

May' Emory has informed me that.— after 1st Aug. my salary will be increased to $900.— a similar increase being made to others.. I suppose to keep us from running away to the mines I also expect to be detailed. as Surgeons to the first reconnoitering party to the mouth of the Gila. in which case, I shall have an additional claim. So you see I am not likely to lack for employment.— I spoke to May' Emory in reference to a microscope & he wishes you to procure one. he has directed me to write an

order. to J W Blunt Esq of New York to procure one, on your selection, and send on to this place - You can also hand over to him any other articles you may wish to send, directed to Maj. Emory, as he has charge of his business at N.Y. Please mention to him about packing them so as to keep dry, as some of the Stationary sent for him last time was somewhat damaged - This will relieve you of most of the trouble - I wrote you last time to be sure + send "Liddy Veg Kingdom" Purchased on my own account. If you have not sent it before you can do so through Mr Blunt. - I think best also to send 2 Reams of pressing Papers of the May agrees. I will also embodied in the Order to Mr Blunt. - (I prefer unbound unsized papers)

JOURNAL CORRESPONDENCE
HERBARIUM
COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY.

I expect to start in 2 or 3 weeks, with Lieut Whipple for the mouth of the Gila to be gone about 3 months. The object is to determine the Astronomical position of that point and we shall probably be pretty much stationed, except in going + returning. I shall improve all the opportunity of making Collections, and will give you a full account on my return - The Colorado is represented as overflowing its banks and there are rumors of a new river having broken out in the middle of the desert -

As you suggest I shall box up + send you my collections before leaving the coast for good, (or before then) for our final departure is very uncertain - as additional appropriations will be necessary and the action of Congress may be long delayed - (We are rather expecting Gen'l Taylor will send us a new Commissioner;) As the work now staged along we are in for a long job, + 3 years is now the shortest limit set. It makes no difference to me as long as I find a new field to operate in

We are here quite shut out from the Gold Excitement save the occasional desertion of a soldier. The true state of the case is beginning to appear — that is, there is gold to be had by hard work, and severe privations so it is dearly bought & easily get rid of. — Its chief effect here is in increased prices of food, & labour, Horses, & mules, are also high

As May Emory is writing you by the same mail as this — he will inform you of his wishes in reference to any thing he may wish you to procure. He has requested me to make a description of the commonest "Wolfenesia" about here, which is the true "Estafiát" of the natives. I do not find it satisfactorily described in your Flora.

Perhaps I can not do better, than fill up this sheet with a description of the Papaveraceous plant mentioned above; I can perhaps enclose a capsule — [No doubt — Romneya California, Hawley]

Calyx. 3 sepaled, caducous; Sepals disposed in a globular head, irregularly shaped, each edge alternately folding over, & being folded under, its proximate Sepal; outer portion hirsute with stiff bristles, & inner portion a membranous expansion, forming a prolonged wing — Petals 6. attached in 2 series, broadly round-cuneiform; circumference crenate; — Stamens numerous; inserted into the thick torus, — filaments, somewhat club-shaped; hirsute towards their insertion; anthers innate, — Stigmas, about 12, radiate on the top of the capsule; alternate with the placentae. — Capsules oblong-ovate, crowned with the Stigmas the placenta forming a central axis; Externally hirsute with close short bristles — Leaves. (lower) pinnatifid alternate; the segments falcate, or long wedge-shaped, toothed at the Extremity; (upper) branch leaves mostly wedge shaped, & bifid; — Petioles set with caducous bristles. — Stem smooth suffruticose — Hab — Edges of dried streams near Southern point San Diego bay. Stem smooth, and glaucous, with a large central pith, — 4 to 5 ft high in thick bushes, mixed with the remains of previous year's growth, — Flowers white, 3 inch diameter; plant not juicy; leaves with a permanent taste, like Aconitum. —

Your very respectfully Chas. C Parry —

San Diego. Calª July 30th 1850

TORREY CORRESPONDENCE
HERBARIUM
COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY

Dr Torrey

My Dear Sir:

Contrary to my expectations I write you again from this place. & which we are still confined & want of funds, though I am nearly certain we shall receive something in the mail from above the despatches. as is usual taking this round about course to reach us. The Major's patience is pretty well exhausted, as you may suppose, and his situation with accumulating, and often pressing debts, anything but comfortable

It seems the appropriation bill for supplying deficiencies including fifty thousand for the Bdy Survey passed in ~~May~~ May. but through shortsightedness. or neglect. it cannot be made available here till the middle of Aug. I see not how the party here can finish what is to be done, and fulfil the engagements to meet at the other end of the line in Nov.-

By the Major's last despatches, he is ordered to finish up the field work and repair to Washington to make out his report - the remainder of the party are ordered across the country to El Paso. but we are without escort, and without means of transport. and to command such things on short notice in this country is out of the question. - so we seem to be in a dubious fix - My own wishes always have been to cross the country but there seem at present great obstacles in the way - The Major has just sent a small party into the field on borrowed resources. they are instructed to run the line as far as practicable. and fill in a topograph. sketch of the country traversed -

I accomplished my contemplated journey to the mountains of
Lower California returning the 16th inst — It was more tedious
and trying than any I have yet undertaken. The scarcity of
water & necessary forced marches under a burning sun made
it extremely wearisome, and I have been troubled up to the
present time with a dull headache in consequence — It was not
however without results — a short distance S of the line I
found a region corresponding to the other side of the mountains
near the Colorado. all the varieties of Mezquite were in full
growth and other desert plants I also came on a short
species of Yucca — which I think must be new it has long
sword shaped branches proceeding in a cluster from the ground
leaves in 3's or frequently reduced to a single leaflet. seeds of
the usual Yucca character — I noticed a dwarf Palmetto. Ve-
getation on steps & taking a more northerly course. in the vicinity
of the Boundary line. — I made search for a species of Pinus
of which I had seen imperfect specimens — a conspicuous landmark
named "Las Piños" was first reached, but to my disappointment
I found it only a dreary hill and had to pursue my way for
another dreary day's journey — the country was very much parched
and the narrow valleys entirely bld. our trail as blind as a trail
well could be, & poverty was dreadful. Still I determined to
push on — and near the close of the last possible day that we could
continue our onward progress I hit on the object of my search
The singular novelty and beauty of the tree repaid me however
all my toil — Its character are so singular & unique that I
inclose you forty full notes — and a rough sketch — besides this
I secured five flowering specimens of Fouquieria splendens

a very fine & fragrant shrub - Though never as yet found in Europe, tropical States. Yet it is but a small unsightly shrub with the habit of its congeners Hydrangeaceæ, and seldom reaching up to a house back - its bark is of a light brown & its leaves a yellowish green - it is very fragrant resembling in smell Syringa fragrans - -

I have to acknowledge the receipt of yours of June 11th it was accompanied by one from Dr Whipple, confirming the worst news, in reference to the last plants - under the unhappy circumstances of their loss I have scarcely a hope of their recovery. and feel I can assure you much disheartened, little as I like to indulge in personal reflections I cannot say that I feel personally injured by the needless neglect - now does his explanation relieve the matter - The plants that he first named - them in Jagena. [illegible] instituting a proper search. he writes on a mere guess to the Capt of the steamer to know if they were not left on board. and indeed on without further trouble himself. about it. — The Capt & myself have both seen the Capt repeatedly, and he very reasonably did not think it worth while to answer "Whipple's guess letter. the fact is the box was landed at Panama & either left there, or lost in its passage to Jagena. —

Thus it seems the labour of a season is lost. and can be but partially repaired the collection was made under some favourable & many disagreeable circumstances - my opportunities are now limited and my zeal in the heathen task of recollection for fathers that of a first discovery - what I most regret is the loss of the plants from the Colorado & the

earlier plants of this vicinity including mosses &c. many of them very interesting — But it is useless to indulge in regrets. I would wish the box recovered if possible, even in a damaged condition as the known plants might be referred to their proper names & some of the novelties. by the assistance of notes and recollection rescued — I have commenced to make limited collections of the plants of this vicinity — and should I cross the country as now contemplated many of the plants of the former collection may be in turn replaced —

What course will be finally adopted in reference to the Commissioners on this side is impossible to foresee and I have ceased to calculate — Whenever my own situation becomes disagreeable & unprofitable I shall request my dismissal and return to the States — My desire is still to spend at least another season on the Sierra Madre & head waters of the Gila — The course of the Del Norte being over more explored ground is less important. —

I thank you for the summary of Botanical news. which is quite refreshing in this dry region — The present season is evidently much more arid than the last and less favourable for collecting I had word of you from De Valcourt in his last passage down but did not see him Dr Le Conte is now gone up to San Francisco —

We expect the steamer in a few days, and shall leave this office in case of further arrivals

Signing myself in the mean time

Most Respectfully Yours

Chas C. Parry —

EARLY CORRESPONDENCE
HERBARIUM
COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY.

Ansd - Augtt. 11th —
Sept 5th

Camp on Rio Grande. below El Paso, Texas
June 2d 1852

TORREY BOTANICAL CORRESPONDENCE
HERBARIUM
COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY.

My Dear Doctor:

This letter will inform you that the design expressed in my last letter to you on my return from the Gila, is given up., as My Enemy has since concluded on sending Mr Wright, home in charge of collections, who is to start on 15th inst in a return train to San Antonio. I am, I must say, better satisfied with this arrangement, and the more so as Mr Wright also seems pleased, with the prospect of seeing his friends in the north, and receiving his previous collections. He will probably write you by this opportunity, in reference to this subject, & you may expect to see him in N Y or Aug next. Mr Wright turns over his stock of paper, & books, to myself, & Dr Bigelow, so that we shall be tolerably well prepared to do the best we can in his absence.

We are at last en route, down the River, the being our last camp, near Settlements, from which our final outfit, will be made, to bring us in the latter part of summer, to the Northern Texas Settlements, on the lower Rio Grande, Our present immediate destination, is the Presidio del Norte, some 250 miles hence, from which point having made observations, we shall continue as near as may be to the River

till we reach Fort Inge on the Leona, our next outfitting place, where I wish you would direct your letters to me hereafter.— We are making calculations for a hot seige of it this summer, which has now fairly begun with most oppressively sultry days, but cool nights. The intense glare of sunshine, on the desert plains, we shall encounter on the march, is almost insufferable, & we shall have to make the best of the matter, by Fanning ourselves.— There is a prospect however of Summer rains setting in early this season, which will be a great relief.— Still it is surprising to see how vegetation is adapted to this arid atmosphere. You will now find on the dry gravelly plains quite a brilliancy of shrubs foliage, including Larrea, Mezquite & Fouquiera, & Agave. Yucca &c — in full flower. Our collections, particularly near Frontera, will be quite copious, Mr Wright with characteristic industry having recollected many of his old discoveries, & no doubt added to them. Dr Bigelows collection is pretty much a duplicate of Wrights, and you will be pleased to see that he has improved very much in specimen making, under Mr Wrights instructions.— My own separate collection are more select, as I was obliged in the early season to adapt myself to the convenience of quick travelling. A large box of Cacti has been put up by W. & B. which the former will take on Duval to St Louis.— I design paying special attention on our return route, to the collection of seeds, for horticultural purposes — Hope that by next Spring, you will have a pleasant

garden on The Hudson, to avail yourself of my collections.
I have not a word from Schott. but learn indirectly
that they have been met by Stations, near Eagle Pass,
Orders have been sent for them to proceed from that
point, up the river to meet the Downward party, & thus
complete the Survey of the most difficult part of the
river. (viz) between Pseudo Del Norte - (to which point the
Downward Survey is now finished.) & Eagle Pass, the
head of boat navigation. I think all our returns
succeed, we hope to get to the mouth of the Rio
Grande next winter, & then I suppose, botanists may go
home - Your letters forwarded to Schott, have been
duly despatched, This is the first opportunity since my
return of writing to him, of which I shall avail myself,
he shall perhaps meet after our [illegible] Texas
in a short time, containing some Spring Supplies. In case
you have sent me any books, or papers, I presume I
shall receive them by this train - Geo J Bartlett. brother
to the Commissioner, left here some time since for the
States. I suppose expecting, to meet his brother in Washington
We seem to be getting along very well without that
functionary, who as was expected, has become entangled
in the Californian whirlpool. Thurber as you say
has had many opportunities of collecting of which it is
to hoped he has availed himself, but he has left
a bad name behind him here, as a troublesome
interfering fellow. whose highest aspiration is to keep

in the good graces of the Commissioner, for his own special interest - I forgot whether I told you that I met Spratendy in one of the towns of Sonora, with a bundle of pressing papers, left behind by him, which I took occasion to seize, & fill with some nice plants, - Don't you think it was a lawful prize?

I received your letter of July date, by the last San Antonio Mail, others received later dates, from you, Wright received the last sheets of his plants, so now we have good data, to go upon in expecting novelties.

Am glad to hear that you have other collections in training for the field; - Wright is anxious to get into a new field of collection, either with a government expedition, or on private means, May Emory allows him to retain the body of his collections, as his salary is small, he goes home on his own expenses, but will of course have them refunded - My own thoughts for the future are set upon a European Voyage, as I mentioned to you before, The Survey of the N W Boy must be looked out for -, I see Geyer quoted as a late collector in Oregon, is it Nicolett's Geyer? -

Dr Engleman alludes in one of his papers, to a German geologist Dr Roemer, who examined the Geology of N W Texas., I would like to get hold of his work, as a guide - Have a nice collection of Silurian fossils, from this locality, & by following down the River, hope to get Mr Kay to the order of succession, of the Strata, - I will write again by the first opportunity, which may not be [illegible] arrived at Fort Inge.

Respectfully Yours C C Parry

HARLEY CORRESPONDENCE
HERBARIUM
COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY.

Reed Rept 8th

San Diego June 25th 1850

Dr Torrey

My Dear Sir

As I informed you in my last. I left Monterey in the Juno Steamer. (May Emory being on board.) and in two days reached San Diego. In looking about the warehouses in San Francisco. Maj E.- was fortunate enough to light on the long lost box. which notwithstanding its plain direction lay neglected and covered with dust.- though late we were glad to get at its contents. which we found however in rather mouldy plight- the instrument boxes fell to pieces as we took them out. and your present to the Major. looked like a fair candidate for the antiquarian Society- my own books owe their better preservation to an extra allowance of covering— The instrument. with the exception of the box was in good order. and I am quite delighted with it- I have not sufficient practice in dissection. to use it to much advantage but hope to improve- the books sent are invaluable.— I found the vegetation much as when I first arrived last July. the Ice plant was in full blossom. and the early annual vegetation disappeared. it is singular to notice how complete this disappearance is. so that in visiting well known localities hoping to secure some seeds I have not been able to detect a trace.— Finding so little to do here about I persuaded the Maj to allow me to make an excursion to the Mountains. from which I have just returned after a most interesting trip of 10 days.— with 2 mules and only a single Companion encumbered only by the necessities of food & lodging— I started direct for San Isabel. my principal design being to explore the divide between that point & San Felipe- directly on the divide is the ranch of a deserted Sailor well acquainted with the mountain passes and by his direction. I made excursions in various directions— I found in this vicinity 3 species of Pine. 1 Thuja. 1 Abies. also.

a variety of fine oaks — The Pines were all noble trees, one 5 leaved with very large drooping cones; another remarkable for its cones shaped like a pine apple with hooked scales — the third was a tree of beautiful proportions cones smaller. I secured as far as possible good fruit specimens. — 6 oaks there are 3 evergreen including the Common 2 Californica. — and an alpine species confined to the ridge, a stately tree with an Elm like bark. Its wood said to be black at the heart & its fibres closely interlacing. — There were 2 deciduous leaved oaks sizable trees, though not the fruiting time of year for securing the fruit. I did the best I could frequently obliged to content myself by picking up some worm eaten specimens off the ground. — These trees alone would be well worth a special visit to secure their perfect fruit & sections —

After scouring the ridge pretty effectually, I descended to San Felipe and here had an opportunity to review to some extent the desert flora, I secured fine specimens of the new Chilopsis, abundant in that locality and found other singular plants that had before escaped my notice, among others a Prunus with dehiscent pericarp — A very singular Rhamnaceous shrub with lemon yellow fruit the size of a small gooseberry, a thin membranous pericarp enclosing a regular bony nut in which are imbedded 3 green fleshy dicotyledonous seeds, the branches spinescent. I think it must be a novelty. I found a Turneraceous plant apparently intermediate between Turnera & Caydalia — I paid special attention to the Cactaceæ of which there are some interesting kinds, one a gigantic Echinocactus, of which a specimen furnished the following dimensions height 9 ft 10 inches, circumference 3 ft — There was also a very interesting Cereus, of which I made the important discovery that its fruit was deliciously palatable. I wish to name this after Dr Engelmann. (Cereus Engelmania)

You may imagine from this brief sketch how much of interest I encountered, which I do not feel at liberty to consider the most profitable yet spent in this region — Returning home. I determined to attempt a new & direct route. and gathering what information I could on started for home with 2 scant days provisions. I found however an excellent road and in 2 easy days travel, (50 miles) reached the vicinity of San Diego much pleased with my trip

For some unaccountable reason we have heard nothing from you in relation to the plants sent home, leaving us in anxiety whether their unpacked loss is true or not — May Emory heard from Lt Whipple who mentioned every thing all right — so that I am hoping the rumored loss to be unfounded. without doubt we shall hear from you by the return mail from San Francisco.

May Emory received private notice of funds being sent out by the last Steamer but most unaccountably these too are missing when if ever they do arrive matters will be brought to a head speedily — The prospect now is of our return to the States, and in some respects it would seem desirable; more than anything else I am anxious to secure the safe transportation of specimens on which I have bestowed too much labor alone to be subject to the risk of crossing the Isthmus in the wet season

HERBARIUM
COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY

There seems to be endless rumors of the probable movements of the Commission in its reorganization in the States from the tenor of letters from the department to Maj Emory I cannot think that we are to be discharged and I shall return to the States with the design of proceeding in my present Capacity to the other end of the line. I am above all desirous to connect my observations here with corresponding ones on the Sierra Madre & head waters of the Gila — If I am required to make out a report under your assistance it would require several months stay, and as that interval might

not be very profitable spent in the field I have thought how it would answer to spend the coming winter in N Y and repair early the coming season to Paso del Norte.— The main thing at present however is to secure my permanent Station on the Line and for this probably a speedy return to the States is desirable.

I met quite unexpectedly Dr Le Conte. At this place on my return from Monterey, he is stopping at the new town of San Diego in which I believe he is somewhat interested he speaks of making great discoveries in the insect line most of his collections being new Genera, or Species.

On my return to this place I first encountered your letter of Jan 21st Its enquiries I presume, have been sufficiently answered in the frequent letters I have since sent you, the anoyance of lost & delayed mails in this country is intolerable and reflects great neglect somewhere every letter we receive in this part of the country alludes to others long sent, & lost.—

Should funds arrive and it is determined to return to the U S. I suppose we shall follow this letter on the next monthly mail and preclude further correspondence for a time. Should any thing occur of special importance before the mail closes. I shall leave this open to subjoin it

Yours with great respect—

Chas C Parry.

TORREY BOTANICAL CLUB
HERBARIUM
COLUMBIA UNIV.

P.S. - June 30th Since writing the above I have been some 10 miles up the coast to the mouth of Soledad valley. To examine a seam of Lignite which is exposed in the high bluffs overlooking the beach. - It is quite a handsome looking as a coal mine but is of more geological than economic interest the seam being thin at best and irregular. It is found in the same tertiary strata in various places along the coast as high as San Francisco — But what was more to my surprise I here found a new species of Pinus growing in sheltered places about the bluffs. Its characters are so unique I am in hopes it may be non descript - or it may be one of Coulters doubtful species described from cones alone. - If new I wish it with your permission to bear the name of Pinus Torreyana (n. sp.) I subjoin the following Characters — Leaves in 5's - 6 to 10 inches long) palish green distinctly scabrous serrate upwards on the edges; joining at base to form a close cylinder embraced in a permanent sheath - Cones obiculan conic (longitudinal circumference 18 inches small full grown specimen length 4½ inches. horizontal circumference at largest girth 11 inches) scales thickened forming irregular 4 and 6 sided pyramids ending in a lighter colored deltoid accumination with a blunt hooked point. in fresh specimens the accumination sends irregular rays down the sides of the scale (larger scales 1¼ inch long by 3/4 inch perpendicularly - The cones are sessile and recurved downwards on the branch - Matured seeds very large almond shaped surrounded by an obligue fin shaped wing. shell hard & bony Tree rather globular shaped branches spreading upwards in exposed places prostrate. measurement of a medium specimen girth of trunk near base 3 ft 10 inches height 25 to 30 ft

near this same place is the locality where I first detected the Dendromecon. which I visited again and found it very abundant — knowing your interest in this singular shrub I cut a stick a stick. hoping to afford you an opportunity to inspect your steps by it some day — It has a pale shaggy bark and a central pith. the wood itself seems durable enough — I forgot to mention that I am able to extend the geographical range of this shrub to the eastern slope of the mountains. having met with it quite unexpectedly in a desolate pass near San Felipe from whence I procured fine fruiting specimens —

The Major has desired me to make some more detailed explorations near the boundary line, and I shall embrace the opportunity to make a push into lower California — there is an interesting change in the geological formation the mountains presenting singularly fabled limits I should like very much to get on the ridge which perhaps may afford a view of the Gulf This will probably be my last excursion in this region at present — The Major has expressed to me his intention to order me home as soon as funds arrive

Yours &c
C C Parry

Ans.d June 11th

San Diego California March 24th
1850

My dear Doctor

I send you letter of Jany 19th Saturday
I sent by Lt Whipple a box to your care containing
duplicates of Parry's Collection (complete). The
unfortunate counsels that prevailed when this
Commission was consulted into a political
Convention seems still to prevail. You appear to be
aware that I had in Chiquet asked to
be relieved from this business. Will state
to you think was the result? I was deprived
by any Military Command by which my pay was
reduced one half, and the only means
taken out of my hands by which the
work could be carried on and which
has been the only reliable that I have ever
possessed) but not relieved from the Commission. I was
directed to take charge of the Commission & the
very agreeable task imposed me of discharging
the duties, but except such as I might
deem completed & necessary for the work. But not
a cent of money has been sent me, not a month
full of provision to feed those I might retain or
a letter of credit to the collector of San Francisco
so who is groaning under the weight of his
[illegible] responsibilities. At the same time it

must have been known that the contingent was
over head and ears in debt without a month's
to eat or a wheel or boat for purposes of
transportation. Had the contents remained in my hands
I might by a sketch of author have used the ludicrous
pleasure to point on the work & rape the humiliating
spectacle of Bi total and absolute wreck
of this contingent in the face of a perfect
possession one. But the whole business looks like a
persecution of myself, and when it is considered
that the patronage of the Commission has been at the desire
of my arch defamer & enemy the Chapo Hitt man
and that he stated in his speech in defamation of
the Lamented Reamy that he would have his revenge
on me, the whole business smells very fishy.

It does not stop with having me here to
cleanse the stable until money is appropriated
when some democratic politician will be sent out
as Commissioner, but I am ordered when
so ordered to report for duty in California
to take the place of one of my dearest friends
the lamented Capt Reamer. Where if I stay
five years I shall be without an instrument
without money & without means of any kind to
make myself useful. Besides, this order of detached,
necessarily pleasant me of all the work I can do
here this summer, there being no means here of producing
any report.

Duty & the good of the service of our country

the whole determination of the great astronomical line forming the Boundary between the Pacific and Sitka Russia has been in my hands. The measurements relating to my results. The observations upon which this is based form the unquestioned record & evidence of the Boundary. Can any one make use of this record but myself? And if so with it be fair to rob me of what is justly my due? Besides I have devoted far, far beyond any time of duty or obligation & the order is unjust & infamous in he who denies it to the last degree.

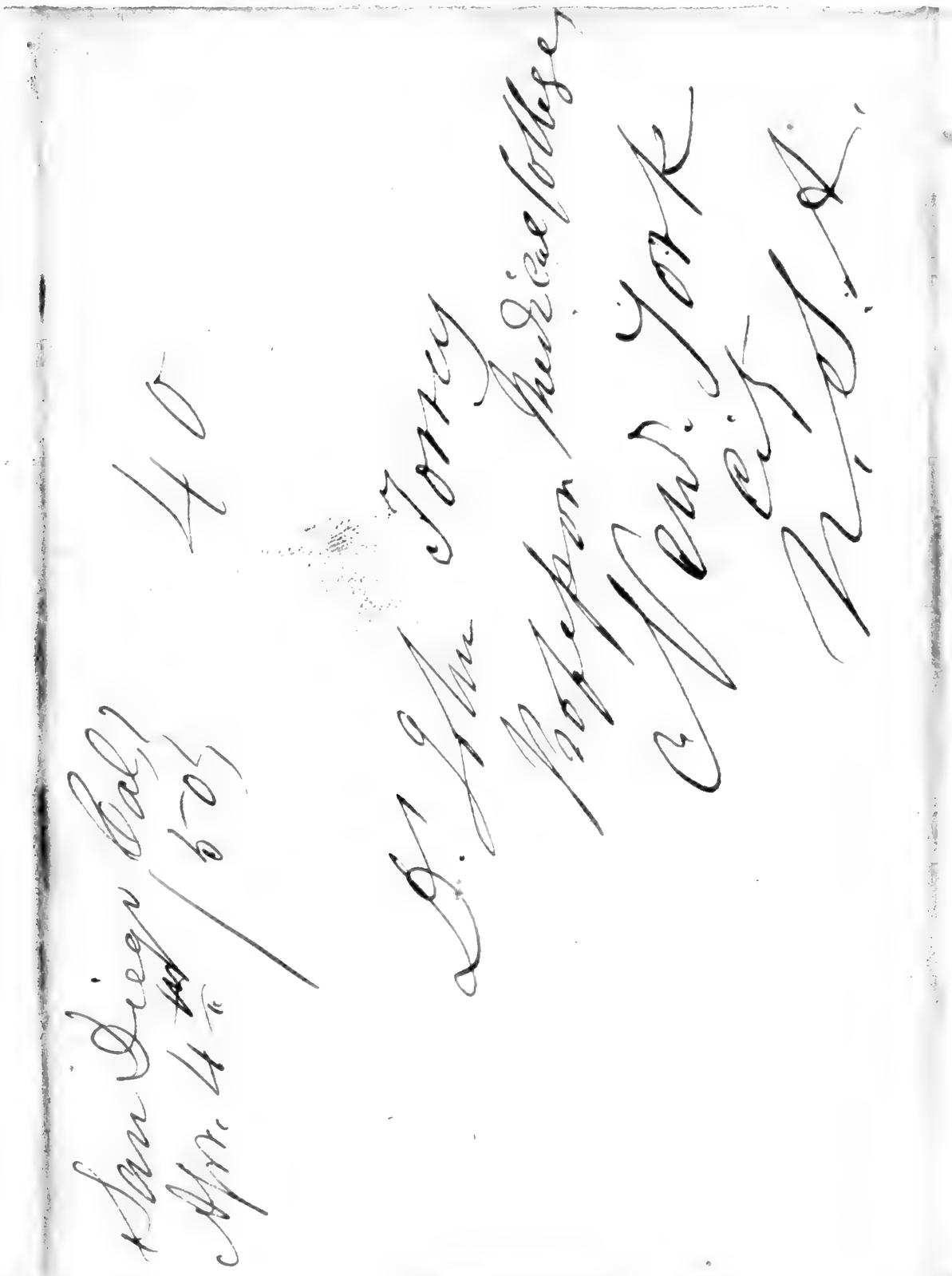
I hope my friend Lieutenant & security will make some effort to have me dealt justly with. I shall write by the mail which carries a Circular appeal to the President for the entire government treatment extended towards me & if that fails you may consider me, and do out of the service, until then I must remain for you. I have been so long associated with the Army of the Caution necessary to be observed in any case for make of that suicide. Our rules are very stringent and I think properly so.

Many is gone to Monterey by land, when he returns we shall have swept every thing clean in Southern California in the way of Astronomy, botany Mineralogy & Topography. I hope you will send the boys by Whipple, I know of no one of what you will furnish too many to [illegible] make it necessary to

der to none but the most prosperous owners. In the mean time I entirely acquiesce in your suggestion to secure the scientific but nothing but a brief description in some Journal of Science.

In regard to serving on this commission any longer ~~as~~ I cannot do it, unless I have the absolute exemption of the whole business civil

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION
NOV
WASH. D.C.



and military. I have too much knowledge of the difficulties & trials to be encountered in traversing the country to place myself at the mercy of any man however inexperienced. It must be under one head, and that a military head, for civil or professional character of the Indians it must be a military head, for civil or professional no legal right to command would soon find himself by the force of circumstances nothing but a prisoner of the Commander of the Escort.

Very truly Yrs

Dr Torrey

Steuben. May 25th 1849

Dear Sir.

TORREY CORRESPONDENCE
HERBARIUM
COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY

I take pleasure to write you by one of our Com pany who returns to New York this morning. I have a little to say except that I am detained here with a part of the Company to wait the packing of the "Specimens" which have just come in. And will probably not sail till the 10th of next month. In the mean time I have nothing to do but wait patiently, Major Emory and all the instruments having gone on in the Steamer "Panama". The weather is quite pleasant now at Panama, but the climate is enervating, and the best exertion is fatiguing; I am very sorry that I omitted to take your advice and bring with me "Lindley's Veg^le Kingdom" as every thing in the vegetable line is to new here, I can make little use of my botanical knowledge. The fruits too are many of them singular & interesting but I could get much else to their names.—

Dr Hartlaub I believe is expected in to-day in the mail Steamer to New York, I hope he will be able to furnish you some materials, in reference to the Botany of the Isthmus.—

Major Emory tells me that I am to pass as one of the Commissioners of the Astronomical Corps, and my duties as naturalist will be only incidental, but there is no doubt the specimens will be sufficiently ample

The Commission is likely to meet with a good many hindrances, as according to all accounts, it is doubtful whether we can muster a sufficient force. to carry on Sporting Operations, all means of Conveyance as mules & waggons are Stated to be very high. At all events we shall likely be detained near San Diego, for several months

I wish if you find a good opportunity you could send me any thing in the way of books, or instruments that you may deem useful during the Expedition which is likely to last longer than I had an idea of. For any Expenses you may incur if you will be kind enough to send the account to my father Joseph Perry - Sandy Hill, Wash' Co N.Y. I have requested him to settle the same, - It is likely there are Expenses established by this Line, and by directing to the Care of Major Emory, I think there would be no difficulty in receiving -

In reference to my plants of last year. I suppose if the report is to be printed. Dr Torrey will write you in reference to the suggestion I made of your adding a paper on the subject; It would be proper in that case that the original report be sent to you

If nothing is done with it, you can make what use you see fit of the plants sent you - -

I have not received the letter you sent me at New Orleans, to be forwarded here, so I suppose it was not sent on.

I hope you will unite me at San Diego, and be sure if I can serve you in any way it will give me great pleasure to do so

Very respectfully
Yours
Wm C. Pease.

LIBRARY CORRESPONDENCE
U. S. BARLOW
COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY

P.S. Lt Wells, brother of the Commissioner, & disbursing Officer of the Corps, goes by the Steamer on business for the Commission to Washington, He expects to return in July or Aug.—

PRINCETON N.J.

Prof. John Torrey M.D.

Princeton

New Jersey

Davenport Nov 15th 1848

Dr Torrey

Dear Sir

COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY.

I have hardly got over the bustle & hurry consequent on my return to the abodes of civilization, having been detained in the N W. longer than there was any botanical necessity.

I am also sorry to say in consequence that I must give up my idea of visiting the East this season. I have accordingly a few days ago packed you up hastily a collection of plants, such as I thought would interest you, including specimens of all my grasses & Carices, on which particularly I wish your opinion, not having the means of satisfactorily determining them myself. Please inform me also on all doubtful points, signified by a blank or (?). with any other information you may deem interesting in making out my report. I hope you will receive the collection in good season as I am required to hand in my report by 1st January next. but if I do not hear from you by that time I shall make it out in such a way that I can add the desired information from you afterwards. — I have enclosed a number of duplicates of the most interesting, and would have added to the number & quality, but one of my bundles has been taken down the river by mistake including my best specimens of Aspidium fragrans. I have hardly a doubt from your account that this is the same plant — A few days after I wrote you from St Croix, I found what I suppose to be Woodsia glabella. Br. Though seeming to vary in some respects my entire collection of N W. ferns is 26. Lycopodiums. 6. Equisetums 6 including among the latter Equisetum variegatum, found on Montreal river Lake Superior

I had an interesting trip since writing you. by the way of St Croix & Bois Brule rivers to Lake Superior, which however I did not reach till 21st Sep. in time to see every thing touched by the frost. The Botany of this region however closely resembles that of Northern N Y so that it made less difference, in the absense of other interesting matter I turned my attention to making a collection of Mosses & Lichens —— I was disappointed in not being early enough to meet Prof Agassiz, Le Conte, & party on Lake Superior. I understand they had a botanist in company, if there is any published account of this expedition. I should like very much to get hold of it for comparison.

I was fortunate enough to be at, La Pointe, Madeline Island, at the time of the annual Indian payment, at which some 1500 of the Chippewa nation were assembled, I improved the opportunity to obtain some interesting information & native articles of food & medicine. On my return to the Lakes, I made an overland tour by what is called the "Long portage" to the head of St Croix. 70 miles which is a regular Indian trail over which we were obliged severally to pack our provisions & blankets. — One of the most striking features of the upper St Croix country is the barren ridges, generally running parallel to the river, covered with a growth of Pinus Banksiana and undergrowth of huckleberry, wintergreen, &c. among other plants of interest I may mention. Polygonum articulatum, Aristida tuberculosa Hudsonia ericoides, Potentilla tridentata, —

I have received not one, addition to my collection from other members of the Corps. The majority of them are lazy fellows, who stick to the canoe and confine their observations to river banks &c. There are some exceptions however. Dr Jackson, who has charge of Upper Michigan, has made himself very unpopular in that region by his stiff manners, and has got the ill will of all the Linear Surveyors, especially by some countenance he has given to articles disparaging Dr Houghton, who is almost idolized in

that region. From them and other circumstances connected with a probable change of administration, I think the Survey will hardly be continued at least under its present organization another season.

I should like very well to be able to continue my N W observations on the Upper Missouri, but if I am to go on my own responsibility would rather fall in with your suggestion of California. My wishes have been directed to that quarter all the time, and I only want a feasible opportunity to put my plans into operation. I may have an opportunity of connecting myself with an Emigrant party and should have no hesitation in doing so if I could accomplish my ends. —

I would like to know if there is any connected account of Oregon & California plants? also. what would be the best plan of preserving and carrying plants on such an Expedition? &c.

Should no good opportunity occur I would like your advise on another point. I have had thoughts of getting up an illustrated flora of the N W. to consist of collections of the more interesting — plants put up in herbarium style and issued in yearly numbers of say 50 each — could I obtain sufficient subscribers to justify the undertaking? —

TORREY CORRESPONDENCE
HERBARIUM
COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY

I should have written to Dr Gray. if I did not suppose that I was doing pretty much the same thing in writing to you. Please bear him my respects, stating that I have had reference to his wishes in the collection I have sent you, with regard to the matter of Exchanges. in my present unsettled state it will be better to waive the subject. anything I collect will be at your service I have farther to request that you will inform me of the Expense you may be at in receiving the collection that I may refund it, as I shall have a sufficient return in the information you will give me

TORREY CORRESPONDENCE
HERBARIUM
COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY

With much respect your friend

Chas. C. Parry

San. Antonio. Texas Oct 10th 1851

ASA GRAY CORRESPONDENCE
HERBARIUM
HARVARD UNIVERSITY

My Dear Doctor

We have reached this point on our journey and have nearly completed our arrangements for commencing Camp life again

Our journey to this point was quite interesting I found the country more picturesque than I expected the prairies being generally Diversified with Oak Openings. timber water however was very scarce The prairie flora has a greater abundance than I expected to find with our N. M. prairies, perhaps more showing at this season when Compositeæ prevail than in the Spring.— The oaks are of several species. one Evergreen.— in the River bottoms we have Elm, Ash, & Pecan Hickory &c. Our Elm. seems to be different from any in the States and I enclose a specimen in fruit for your examination

My collections were of course limited,, and the country about here being pretty well known— I felt at liberty to play the Amateur, My Envoy. saw at Indianola 2 Boxes of plant directed to Dr Gray I suppose from Wright. they will contain no doubt some interesting specimens

Schott. is quite zealous for collecting, but is rather rough, and does not take pains in selecting his specimens, I think by a little training however he will be very useful, and he seems to have a very good general knowledge of plants.

Accounts of the Commission represent a very bad state of things. Col Jackson & the Surveyor in league against Mr Bartlett. — The Surveyor has refused to sign the map, asserting that the line has been wrongly made — Funds all spent, and several of Bartlett's creditors, interested. May Emory thinks, the upshot of the matter will be either a general breaking up, and return home, or his appointment as Commissioner.

Mr Bartlett's brother, the Commissary is now here on his way out with a provision Train. We Expect to proceed them to El Paso, and hope to reach there in about 35 days from hence, Arrangements have been made to start next Monday 13th inst.

I am informed that letters for El Paso will come most direct by the way of Santa Fee.

If it should become advisable for me to return next summer I shall try & take that route

In reference to the plants & Specimens left with Capt Hardcastle you can use your discretion

about sending for them. In case you may wish to use an order from me I will write one on the bottom of this page.— The specimens consist of a bundle of plants. and some parcels of seeds Cones & Geological Specimens. Should you think best to take them under your care you can add them to those already in your possession & distribute such as you may think proper

I wish if you have a favorable opportunity you would get the opinion of some good Geologist in reference to what I have written for my California Report, and any criticisms in that Department, or the Botany might be enclosed for future use in preparing it for the press.—

Mr Schott I believe writes you from here and I may as well close for the present

Remaining Ever Respectfully Yours

Chas. G. Sargent

HERBARIUM
COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY

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Sandy Hill. Sept. 22d 1846

CORRESPONDENCE
HERBARIUM
COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY.

Dear Sir. —

Wishing to submit to your inspection, a few specimens I am able to enclose in a letter. I thought that I might note down at the same time some few observations the past season has afforded that may perhaps prove not uninteresting to you — I have been located most of the time at Sandy Hill Wash. Co, where my frequent rambles before had left little new to reward my search and occupied me mainly in supplying deficiencies in my Herbarium; from this place as a central point, I have made Excursions in various directions; in June I made an hasty trip to Montreal — the month of July I spent mainly on the East end of Long Island — In the latter part of Aug — I made an interesting excursion to, Essex Co & Mount Marcy —

In our own vicinity a variety of soil unites plants that would otherwise indicate a different geographical range. On our warm sand hills we find Lechea minor, Trachostema dichotoma and other plants to connect us with New Jersey, & Southern New York; while in our springy ravines Northern plants make their appearance and I have found sparingly Rhamnus alnifolius, Chiogenes, &c. in our woods Habenaria Hookeri, is quite abundant, we also find Goodyera pubescens, (Pogonia verticillata, (sparingly) in our wet meadows. Lilaris convexa on our river banks. Ranunculus pensylvanicus, Nasturtium hispidum, — Parnassia caroliniana — Among our rarities I would mention, Hieracium Canadense, Gaura biennis (Fort Edward) Viburnum pubescens (banks of Champlain canal) — I was shown near Kingsbury a field covered with Rudbeckia hirta I also found an abundant locality of Pleurospecra andromeda, near Union Village Washt Co

In my visit to Montreal the only plants that especially attracted my attention were. Thlaspi arvense, Hyoscianus, niger Silene inflata — (Euphorbia corollata? Saint, Johns

My observations on Long Island, in the month of July, were confined to the Eastern extremity — & Montauk point, as I found myself here following in your steps I cannot expect to add anything important but simply present a list — near Greenport — Dianthus armeria Vaccinium frondosum South Hampton — Senecio vulgaris Stachys hyssopifolia Montauk — Lathyrus maritimus, Ilex opaca, Chrysopsis falcata, Hydrocotyle umbellata Œnothera, linearis. R. Rudbeckia hirta, and a small plant of which I enclose a specimen found near the point rooting in the moist sand, flowering close to the ground, with petals of a conspicuous shining lustre I supposed it might be a variety of Spergula rubra but it seems to present some singular features. —

On the mountains about Lake George, I saw Potentilla tridentata, P. anguta, Arenaria stricta, Silene antirrhina Woodsia ilvensis, (Lycopodium rupestre is common on the bare granite rocks on the hillsides & islands —

During the last week in August, accompanied by my brother we started for Essex Co & Mount Marcy, taking our route by the way of Lake Champlain as far as Crown point, we struck across foot for the Adirondack iron works, by the way of Johnson's Clear pond. Our path lay along a now deserted road rendered impassable to horses by fallen trees, and with no buildings on our route the greater part of the way we were told in the language of the country would prove "a lonesome road," our grass-grown path occasionally cheered us with traces of "the white man's foot" in the plantain, on each side the ground matted everywhere with moss, afforded a bed for Oxalis acetosella Linaea borealis, and Chiogenes, with its beautiful white berry (by the way) not unpalatable, & mildly acid, Polypodium connectile & Aster acuminatus, were very common, the lateness of the season was sufficiently indicated by finding the Linaea borealis in full bloom, with an abundance of red raspberries to give relish to our rustic repasts, Passing on our way

the tributaries to the East branch of the Hudson, and very generally on our route we met with Gentiana Saponaria var linearis which to our cursory view seemed amply distinct with no tendency to run into the plant we were acquainted with as the Common G. Saponaria. — 8 miles from Johnsons Clear Pond, on the way to Newcomb we came on the Boreas river, the first tributary to the western branch, on the muddy margin of this stream I found the plant of which I send you Specimens, its characters seem to be well marked with a symmetry of parts that would well accord with the Linnaean system I am unable to refer it to anything described in my books and therfore submit it to your more enlarged experience, hoping it may prove an interesting addition to New York Botany — should it prove anything new I propose to name it after my friend Dr Emmons, in whose geological district it occurs, if a described plant please furnish me with its name & characters. I have noted down a few prominent points as they occured to me on the spot leaving it to your correction I can furnish a few more specimens — Arriving at the Adirondack iron works on the 28th Aug. the next day provided with a guide we started for Mount Marcy, 13 miles distant. the bed of the river now a mere brook ~~afford~~ offering a rough but sure path to the sources of the Hudson; Camping the 1st night at the foot of the mountain we made an early start arriving at the summit by 7 A.M. The Solidago thyrsoidea was common at the foot & the sides of the mountain we also found at various places Ribes lacustre in fruit; on the summit the ordinary alpine plants Solidago Virga Aurea Potentilla tridentata, Arenaria Groenlandica, Empetrum nigrum, Vaccinium uliginosum Nabalus nana Rhododendron Lapponicum, Andromeda hypnoides, Lycopodium selago Ledum latifolium, we were unsuccessful in our search for Epilobium alpinum, otherwise the scene & crop well rewarded our toil. — Hoping my communications may not interfere with more important duties I remain, with much respect

Yours. &c Charles C. Parry

Dr J Torrey —

TORREY CORRESPONDENCE
HERBARIUM
COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY

P.S. I write on the eve of my departure for the west
can I serve you in any way in a Botanical line I shall be glad
to do so. any Communication addressed to this place will reach me

C C Pang